

Reagan pledges support for Gulf Arabs

ABU DHABI (R) — U.S. President Ronald Reagan pledged support for Gulf Arab states in a letter delivered on Saturday to the president of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), the Emirates News Agency (WAM) reported. It said the letter to Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahayan, handed over by U.S. Ambassador David Mack, "affirmed the keenness of the United States and its allies for cooperation and friendship with states of the region and the preservation of security and stability in the Gulf."

Diplomats said the message appeared to be part of U.S. efforts to restore damaged credibility in the region following revelations Washington had sold arms to Iran. The message was in reply to one Sheikh Zayed had sent the U.S. president lately and mentioned that an American envoy would be visiting the region to discuss developments. WAM added, it said the message also dealt with the situation in the region, world issues of common interest and cooperation between the UAE and the U.S.

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Arab news agencies end meeting

KUWAIT (R) — Top officials of the Federation of Arab News Agencies (FANA) ended two days of talks here Saturday on ways to strengthen cooperation between Arab and foreign news agencies, the Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) said. FANA President Barges Hmoud Al Barges, who is also KUNA's director-general, and FANA Director-General Farid Ayar agreed that the federation should finance a comprehensive study of ways to promote cooperation between Arab and African news agencies.

KUNA said. The FANA general assembly last December assigned the director-general of the Sudan News Agency (SUNA), Al Tayeb Huj Atiyyeh, to prepare the study, it noted. KUNA said the officials also discussed a planned visit by a FANA delegation to the Organisation of Asian News Agencies and prospects of increasing the flow of news items on Arab affairs to Asian agencies. Arrangements for a Euro-Arab to be held in Madrid at the end of the year, were reviewed, it said.

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Khatib to head delegation to Damascus meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — A Cabinet meeting on Saturday named Minister of Information, Culture and Tourism Mohammad Khatib to head a Jordanian delegation to attend a conference of Arab ministers of culture scheduled to convene in Damascus on April 20. The Cabinet, which met under the chairmanship of Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Wahhab Al Majali, also endorsed amendments to the Treaty of the World Tourism Organisation.

Hamzeh to head team to WHO talks

AMMAN (Petra) — Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh will head a Jordanian delegation to the 40th session of the World Health Organisation (WHO), scheduled to convene in Geneva on May 1. The delegation will also represent Jordan to the executive meetings of the Council of Arab Ministers of Health which will also be held in Geneva in May.

Syrian interior minister due Monday

AMMAN (Petra) — Syrian Interior Minister Mohammad Ghabash is due here Monday on a three-day official visit to Jordan during which he will hold talks with senior Jordanian officials on scopes of strengthening bilateral cooperations.

Bridges to close

AMMAN (Petra) — The King Hussein and Prince Mohammad bridges across the River Jordan will be closed as of 10 a.m. Monday and reopen Wednesday morning, the Public Security Department (PSD) said Saturday. A PSD statement said the two bridges would be closed again on Sunday, April 19, an reopen on Tuesday. No reason was given for the closure and the PSD statement asked travellers to refrain from going to the bridge terminals during these periods.

Soviet cosmonauts to take space walk

MOSCOW (AP) — Two Soviet cosmonauts were preparing on Saturday for a space walk to inspect a laboratory module that failed to dock with their orbiting space, the official news agency TASS said Saturday. TASS said cosmonauts Yuri Romanenko and Alexander Laveikin were scheduled to leave the Mir space station late Saturday or early Sunday. It gave no details. The Kvant module, which carries a new generation space lab, has twice failed to dock with the space station.

Clashes reported in 2 Egyptian towns

CAIRO (R) — Crowds clashed with police in two Egyptian towns after candidates they supported lost in this week's parliamentary elections, security sources said Saturday. They said one person was killed and one was wounded in the oasis town of Fayoum, 100 kilometres southwest of Cairo, when supporters of the New Wafd party fired shots in the air in jubilation on Friday after early returns indicated a victory for their party in the constituency.

Iraq reports crushing Iranian offensive in south

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Iraqi forces drove Iranian fighters out of territory in southern Iraq in a large-scale attack early Saturday, the military command in Baghdad announced.

A 21-gun salute echoed across the Iraqi capital after the victory was reported, according to a dispatch from the Iraqi News Agency (INA).

In its brief report, the agency did not give the size of the territory retaken by the Iraqis, but it said the area was liberated in a massive pre-dawn attack.

The communique said the elite Presidential Guards division crushed enemy troops holding land east of the southern Iraqi city of Basra and "only those who managed to flee the battlefield were left alive."

Iraqi communiques gave no precise details on the amount of territory freed from the Iranians. Previous Baghdad announcements referred to a few "footholds" gained by Iraq in its initial assault on Tuesday.

Iraq said Friday its troops had recovered all territory lost to Iran in another attack on the central front east of Baghdad.

Defence Minister General Adnan Khairallah led Saturday's Iraqi counter-attack. Baghdad Radio quoted him as saying it was

launched by the Presidential Guards and men of the third and seventh corps defending east and south of Basra.

"Tens of thousands of enemy troops were killed or wounded, their bodies are littering the battlefield and huge numbers were taken prisoner," he said in a cable to President Saddam Hussein.

The congratulatory telegram, which was quoted by INA, said the Iraqis attack involved jet fighters, helicopter gunships, artillery, infantry and armour columns.

Earlier, Iran claimed its forces smashed a big Iraqi counter-attack with heavy casualties on the southern front.

The Iranian news agency IRNA claimed at least 3,000 Iraqis were killed or wounded in fighting Friday night and Saturday.

Meanwhile, an Iranian gunboat fired two missiles at a Panamanian freighter in the southern Gulf on Saturday but it was not clear whether they hit the vessel, marine salvage executives said.

The 15,180-tonne Colossus was attacked 32 kilometres off the Emirate of Sharjah on the United Arab Emirates coast, said the executives.

They said the attack took place at 3:30 p.m. and the captain of the vessel radioed that the missiles were fired at his vessel but that he had no casualties.

He did not say whether the vessel sustained damage and did not request assistance, according to the executives. It was not clear whether the missiles hit the vessel.

Iran has been sending its gunboats to fire Italian-made Sea Killer missiles at commercial vessels sailing in the neutral waters of the Gulf in retaliation for the Iraqi attacks on its own tanker routes.

Saturday's attack took place even as the U.S. navy was geared to play a more active role in protecting commercial vessels in the Gulf against the Iranian attacks. British, French and Soviet warships have also been actively patrolling the Gulf waters.

Shipping executives in the region have disclosed that a U.S. warship earlier in the week scared off an Iranian gunboat that was harassing an American-flag tanker operated by the U.S. Mobil Oil Co. (See page 2).

Resistance group says 9 Israeli soldiers killed

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Commandos said Saturday they killed nine Israeli soldiers in an overnight rocket and machinegun attack in South Lebanon.

A statement issued by the "Islamic Resistance" and broadcast on local radio stations said a guerrilla unit ambushed an Israeli force Friday night at the village of Kantara, inside Israel's self-declared "security zone" there.

"Two Israeli soldiers of the Zionist army were killed and a tank completely destroyed," the statement said.

"When the enemy sent in reinforcements, our guerrillas fired rockets and automatic weapons (weapons) at them. An Israeli vehicle was set ablaze and seven soldiers in it were killed," it said. It said the guerrillas returned safely to base.

The statement said Israeli helicopters strafed wooded areas, while jet fighters staged mock raids and dropped flares over the area, apparently in a bid to recover the soldiers' bodies.

Israel established "security zone" after withdrawing the bulk of its forces from Lebanon in

June 1985. It had invaded Lebanon three years earlier with the declared aim of driving Palestinian guerrillas away from its frontier.

State-owned Beirut Radio said Israeli helicopter gunships fired missiles in the Kantara area, hitting two cars and killing two people. Four other people were wounded, two seriously, it said.

Israel's Chief of Staff Moshe Levy, who supervised the withdrawal of the bulk of Israeli troops from Lebanon in 1985 and establishment of the "security zone," said Israel would maintain its current level of activity in southern Lebanon as long as necessary to maintain "security."

"Israel's involvement in Lebanon is correct, and in my opinion it will continue," Mr. Levy said. "We have one goal in mind: our mission to protect the border and to deter military threats."

The security zone, a 10 to 15-kilometre wide strip of land, is patrolled by the 1,500-strong Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army, aided by Israeli troops.

Peres to present peace conference plan to cabinet

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres will soon present a proposal on an international Middle East peace conference to the government despite opposition from right-wingers in the cabinet, a top aide said Saturday.

Avraham Tamir, director general of the foreign ministry, said in an Israel Radio interview that recent Israeli contacts with Soviet and Chinese officials had been aimed at setting the ground-work for such a conference.

"I think that within a short time, the foreign minister will be able to present an international framework through which one can reach direct talks," Mr. Tamir said.

Mr. Peres' attempts to seek an international conference are bitterly opposed by Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir who has called such a forum "suicidal and nightmarish." Both leaders have said their coalition could face collapse over the issue.

Mr. Shamir opposes a conference with the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council on grounds it would "impose" a solution on Israel and replace direct Israeli-Arab talks.

Mr. Peres has said that the Soviet Union and China, both permanent members of the Security Council, must establish relations with Israel if they want to participate in the conference.

On Friday, Mr. Shamir warned that Israel's coalition government was heading for collapse if Mr. Peres insisted on seeking to promote an international conference.

Mr. Shamir told Israel television: "(Mr. Peres) Labour Party must toe my line. (If not) it apparently wants to break up the government."

Mr. Peres earlier told reporters that Mr. Shamir's attacks against his idea would lead to a collapse of the government.

However, Mr. Shamir said he had no intention of breaking up the government and that early elections would be harmful to the country.

"Israel needs the national unity government and I see no reason or justification... for early elections," Mr. Shamir said. "If there are differences of opinion, we must overcome them."

But Mr. Shamir added that "someone will have to decide on a chance in position."

Meanwhile, some cabinet ministers predicted the fragile coalition government would not survive past the end of this year.

"I feel now, more than ever, that something has happened which has brought this government almost to its end," said Education Minister Yitzhak Navon, a senior cabinet minister and a member of the Labour Party.

Regent, opening justice ministers' talks, calls for revitalisation of Arab will

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, on Saturday urged Arab countries to revive the work of institutions which could best represent the will of Arab society and adopt contemporary thinking and objective dialogue which, he said, should form a basis for arriving at results marked by integrity and justice.

The Arabs and Muslims are now going through one of the most critical stages in their history and therefore they should work out practical ideas, the Regent continued. Addressing the opening session of the fifth Arab Justice Ministers Council meeting at the Royal Cultural Centre in Amman, Prince Hassan said that the Arab and Islamic will should be revitalised and institutions reconstructed to achieve the aspirations of the Arab and Islamic nations.

"When we talk about national issues and Islamic questions, we lack documented facts and figures to back our views and lack legal studies that, for example, support Arab and Islamic rights in Jerusalem," Prince Hassan said.

He said that he himself had laid down a detailed study dealing with the question of Jerusalem and self-determination for the Palestinian people and added that "Jordan is deeply concerned with this issue as it faces cultural challenges on both the East and the West Banks."

Objective Arab and Islamic studies on Al Aqsa Mosque and the Dome of the Rock are not



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, opens a four-day meeting of the Council of Arab Justice Ministers on Saturday (Petra photo)

sufficient to present to the world, Prince Hassan said.

He said Jordan, which hosted numerous Arab meetings, continues to work for a unified Arab stand and action and wishes the Arab justice ministers success in their endeavours to enhance Arab will and determination and serve the future generations.

At the outset of the session, Mr. Mustafa Bularabi Alawi, minister of justice in Morocco, spoke about the achievements of the Arab Justice Ministers Council in helping to unify Arab legal and judicial laws and regulations.

Over the past 10 years the council has taken steps towards helping Arab states unify their laws and strengthened ties among judicial authorities in the Arab World, Mr. Alawi said. He outlined some of the projects which the council worked out over the

past 10 years and said they all were intended to promote judicial systems in Arab countries.

Another speaker at the opening session was Mr. Mohammad Miko, secretary general of the Arab Justice Ministers Council, who paid tribute to Jordan and its government for hosting the conference and providing all possible support for the council.

Mr. Miko reviewed justice ministers' work in previous council meetings and said that deliberations and exchange of information help promote cooperation in formulating unified judicial laws.

Justice Minister Riad Al Shaka, who was elected chairman of the conference, made a speech in which he referred to the council's work and describing it as a cultural battle aimed at enhancing the

establishment of law and respect of mankind.

Mr. Jamal Sourani, who is attending the meeting on behalf of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), paid tribute to His Majesty King Hussein and the Jordanian people for the hospitality and support accorded to the delegations attending the meeting and said that he was thankful for Mr. Shaka for adopting the emblem of the Dome of the Rock in Jerusalem as the logo for the meeting.

"The Palestinian people will continue to hold on to their identity and pursue the struggle until the Arab flag is hoisted in Arab Jerusalem and Palestine," Mr. Sourani said.

Mr. Sourani also referred to the Gulf war and described Iran as having a lust for further destruction and slaughter in violation of all international norms and principles and in defiance of all efforts for peace.

The topics that the four-day meeting will discuss include a formula for unifying judicial laws in Arab states, arbitration and other judicial affairs.

Delegations representing 12 Arab countries are taking part in the meeting.

The speakers of the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament Ahmad Al Lawzi and Akel Al Fayed respectively, several senior officials, the president of the Jordanian Bar Association and judges and lawyers and members of Arab diplomatic missions here attended the opening session.

Shultz heads for Moscow; Reagan response to Gorbachev raises hopes

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz left for Moscow on Saturday and talks with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze which could lead to a summit meeting later this year between President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

Mr. Shultz left Andrews air force base near Washington on board a U.S. air force jet for Helsinki, where he was to stay for a day before arriving in Moscow Monday morning.

He is making the trip despite charges of Soviet espionage against the U.S. embassy in Moscow and counter-charges by the Soviet Union of American spying at Soviet diplomatic offices in the United States.

The Soviet Union stayed on the offensive against the United States on Saturday.

The official TASS news agency again accused the White House of lying over accusations of Soviet espionage in the U.S. embassy in Moscow and made a fresh attack on President Reagan's "Star Wars" plans for a space-based missile defence.

The remarks followed proposals for new arms talks on Friday by Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev in Prague that threw a

new element into the Shultz-Shevardnadze talks.

Foreign analysts in Moscow said the TASS comments indicated there was pessimism in the Kremlin about hopes of progress on arms control issues during Mr. Shultz's visit, even though Mr. Reagan on Friday welcomed Mr. Gorbachev's proposals.

Commenting on a speech by Mr. Reagan on Friday in Los Angeles, TASS said he had expressed the belief that the superpowers should discuss a "balance of fear" strategy as a way of preserving peace.

"The president advocated a radical cut in offensive missiles as if he did not see the fact that the strategic defence initiative (SDI) cannot lead to this but, instead, will force the side against which it is aimed to take measures to neutralise it," TASS said.

The agency was referring to Mr. Reagan's SDI project, popularly known as "Star Wars," which Moscow regards as the major obstacle to arms accords.

Mr. Reagan said Friday he was pleased to hear that Mr. Gorbachev had offered to hold simultaneous talks on reducing short-range and medium-range nuclear weapons in Europe.

nuclear weapons has been a stumbling block in U.S.-Soviet arms control talks. Mr. Reagan has said no agreement to reduce medium-range weapons in Europe can occur without provisions to reduce the Soviet superiority in the number of shorter-range weapons.

The Soviets had balked at linking reductions in the two weapons systems, but on Friday, Mr. Gorbachev offered to hold simultaneous, though unrelated, meetings on the two weapons systems.

Mr. Reagan was asked whether Mr. Gorbachev's statements removed any obstacles in superpower arms talks.

"Well, I think it stages that something that we, ourselves, believe," he said. "We have never believed in the linkage of those two weapon systems together, but we have believed that the negotiations should be simultaneous."

Mr. Reagan said he was pleased to hear that Mr. Gorbachev had offered to hold simultaneous talks on reducing short-range and medium-range nuclear weapons in Europe.

Short-range nuclear missiles have a range of 480-960 kilometres, while medium-range

Arafat to negotiate new formula with PLO factions

By Lamis K. Andoni in Tunis

Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat left Tunis for Algiers on Saturday to attend Palestinian reconciliation talks scheduled to begin there on Sunday.

The PLO Chairman left Tunis after securing a mandate from the Revolutionary Council of Fateh, which met here until the early hours of Saturday, to negotiate with other PLO factions a new formula for Jordanian-Palestinian relations and Palestinian-Egyptian contacts.

Informed sources said the council had endorsed "a plan of action formulated by the Central Committee of Fateh." The sources said the plan included the abrogation of the Feb. 11, 1985, Jordan-PLO accord and the adoption of a new formula to govern Jordanian-Palestinian relations and to keep contacts open between the PLO and Egypt.

Scalfaro begins urgent talks on forming new government

ROME (R) — Christian Democrat Prime Minister-designate Oscar Luigi Scalfaro began hurried consultations on Saturday to try to form a government which is expected to lead Italy into a June election.

Mr. Scalfaro, who was interior minister in the outgoing coalition government of Socialist Prime Minister Bettino Craxi, was given a mandate by President Francesco Cossiga on Friday.

Political sources said a deep rift between the Christian Democrats and the Socialists, which has widened during a five-and-a-half week political crisis, was likely to prevent Mr. Scalfaro rebuilding the five-party coalition which had governed Italy for more than three years.

Mr. Scalfaro, who is expected to report back to Mr. Cossiga on Monday or Tuesday, was likely to form a minority government which would take Italy to elections a year ahead of schedule, the fifth early poll in the republic's 40-year history.

faro would have to move quickly if elections were to be held in the first three weeks of June, before the annual holiday exodus. Low turnout at an election during the holiday season is most likely to harm the Christian Democrats.

Parliament would have to be dissolved and elections called in the next two weeks for a poll to be held by June 21, the sources said.

Mr. Scalfaro, who met Mr. Craxi on Saturday, will have to present his government to parliament for a confidence vote. If it loses, as expected, Mr. Cossiga is likely to ask Mr. Scalfaro to stay on at the head of a caretaker administration.

Observers said Mr. Scalfaro's plans were likely to take shape after a meeting with the Socialists on Sunday.

Mr. Scalfaro said Saturday that his talks with Mr. Craxi, who stood down on Thursday after Mr. Cossiga refused to accept a previous resignation offer made on March 3, had gone well.

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U.S. warship said to have scared off Iranian gunboat from harassing oil tanker

BAHRAIN (AP) — A U.S. warship has scared off an Iranian gunboat that tried to harass an American-flag tanker in the Gulf, according to shipping executives.

said on Friday that the United States was to play a more active role in protecting commercial vessels against offshoots of the 6½-year-old Iran-Iraq war.

Speaking on condition of anonymity, the executives said the tanker, which belongs to Mobil Oil Co., was sailing from the Saudi Arabian terminal of Ras Rammara earlier in the week when an Iranian gunboat challenged it.

The name of the tanker was not disclosed, and the executives said the Iranians stopped and questioned its captain by radio about his identity, cargo, and destination.

An unidentified U.S. warship that happened to be in the vicinity "told the Iranians to back off, and they did," said one marine shipping executive.

He said the tanker was to lift a shipment of crude oil from the Arabian-American Oil Co. (ARAMCO).

Other marine shipping sources cited confirmed this without elaborating, affirming a growing role of the U.S. warships in protecting U.S.-flag vessels in the Gulf against Iranian attacks.

They expressed hopes the seven-unit U.S. navy task force in

the region would protect vessels of other nationalities as well.

But they conceded that the Italian freighter commandant Revoletto last November failed to get help from a U.S. warship in a similar incident in the region.

A U.S. warship swung into action in the Arabian Sea last May to scare off an Iranian gunboat that intercepted the American freighter President McKinley.

Kuwait, whose vessels have been a prime target of Iranian attacks, has been seeking American protection for its ships in the Gulf, shipping sources in Bahrain said.

The Mobil Oil tanker incident, they said, proved that Kuwait would be adequately protected if it transferred the registration of its tanker fleet to the U.S. flag.

(The Iranian ambassador to the U.N. told a press conference on Friday that the U.S. should not lend its flag to other countries' shipping in the Gulf since it would not prevent Iran from halting cargo bound for Iraq.)

According to sources, Kuwait's interest in registering its tankers under U.S. or Soviet flags was

emerging as the most feasible protection plan floated between Gulf powers and Washington against Iranian attacks.

Some proposed protection plans include escort of Kuwaiti tankers by U.S. warships, or jointly by U.S. and Soviet units, or a multinational force of warships to escort convoys of commercial vessels of different nationalities.

"The Kuwaitis have not decided which plan to adopt, but they are likely to hold the ship registration plan as the ace up their sleeve," said one Western diplomat based in Kuwait.

Arab diplomats said Kuwait, like its allies in the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council — Saudi Arabia, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain and Oman, was ostensibly neutral in the Gulf war.

The GCC powers have been trying to avoid provoking the Iranians, while seeking a negotiated end to the war.

Kuwait traditionally projects balanced ties with East and West and would not willingly anger Moscow by entrusting the United States' ships with the protection of its tankers in the Gulf, the same diplomats contended.

Kuwait officials have not commented on any of the reported contingency plans, which have come to light mainly in the U.S. news media.

OAPEC lauds dialogue between oil producers, consumers

KUWAIT (R) — Talks between OPEC, Arab oil states and European countries have boosted efforts to promote cooperation between oil producers and users, the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) said Saturday.

The talks in Luxembourg last month took place "at a time of increasing recognition of the problems caused by oil price fluctuations to both producers and consumers," the Kuwait-based OAPEC said in its April bulletin.

Participants included senior officials from the 13-member OPEC (Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries), 10-member OAPEC and the European Community (EC) Commission, it said.

"The producers' problems are the more apparent and pressing, and include falling standards of living, reduced outlays for development and widespread economic dislocations," it said.

"But the sharp price swings are also making it difficult for the consuming countries to plan their long-term investments in the energy sector with any degree of certainty."

World oil prices rebounded to an OPEC target of around \$18 a barrel this year after crashing briefly below \$10 last year, a fall of two-thirds from late 1985 levels.

OAPEC said it had backed dialogue and cooperation between producers and users of oil since 1974, the year after the 1970s oil boom began, in times of both rising and falling prices.

"Throughout we have maintained that the interests of both (producers and consumers) will be best served by a stable and more equitable world economy, which includes the interests and needs of developing countries," it said.

There was a special need for greater cooperation with EC countries. "They import 40 per cent of our members' oil exports, while our members account for 15 per cent of the community's trade with other countries," it said.

OAPEC groups Algeria, Bahrain, Iraq, Kuwait, Libya, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Tunisia and the United Arab Emirates. Egypt was suspended after its 1979 treaty with Israel.

The Luxembourg talks, the bulletin said, gave new impetus to progress towards closer cooperation and fresh insights into the ways this would develop.

It reported general agreement that the three sponsors of the talks — OAPEC, OPEC and the EC Commission — should launch joint studies to pinpoint ways in which to cope with economic instability.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Ex-prisoner ready to defend Demjanjuk

VICTORIA, British Columbia (AP) — A Victoria man sought by the son-in-law of alleged Nazi war criminal John Demjanjuk says he is prepared to go to Israel to testify in Demjanjuk's defence.

Jakob Brenner, 70, a Dachau concentration camp prisoner during World War II, said in February that Demjanjuk was not to blame for the deaths of Jews. But Brenner said Thursday he has not been approached by anyone regarding the case. Demjanjuk, 66, is accused of being "Ivan the Terrible" who directed the slaughter of detainees in a Polish concentration camp during the war. Edward Nishnic, husband of one of Demjanjuk's daughters, told reporters in Montreal on Thursday he hoped to contact Brenner, the man he claims was a translator in the Munich high court of the SS from 1940 to 1945. "According to Brenner, any time any guard in any concentration camp was killed, they were always replaced through that court," said Nishnic, who is on a cross-country tour to raise funds for Demjanjuk's defence. "The son-in-law better come and talk to me in person," said Brenner. "If he were to pay my way, I would go and testify." He said he is "more convinced than ever" that Demjanjuk is not Ivan the Terrible. "If he were Ivan, Demjanjuk would be about 80 years old by now. He would have had to be a guard at 20 years old and there's no way the SS would have allowed that." Brenner said in an earlier interview that Ivan the Terrible was killed about 1943.

U.S. port authorities shun Shalom

NEW YORK (AP) — An agency cancelled a contract for a study of airport security after it learned that the firm it hired was headed by a man who quit the Israeli government under fire last summer, the Daily News has reported. The News on Friday quoted unidentified sources at the port authority of New York and New Jersey as saying that Abraham Shalom, once the head of Israel's Shin Bet security service, used the name Abraham Bender when he contacted them. Shalom quit his post last June 25 following reports that some of his agents said he had ordered the killing of two alleged Palestinian bus hijackers. Panels investigating the 1984 incident did not assess blame, and Shalom denied any wrongdoing. He was pardoned by Israeli President Chaim Herzog, avoiding a criminal investigation. The \$75,000 contract between the port authority and Atwell Ltd. was for a study of security needs at Kennedy International, Laguardia and Newark international airports, the News said. The contract, signed two weeks ago, called for a 30-day study that was to begin April 22. A port authority spokeswoman said authority was "no longer satisfied with the agreement." She did not elaborate.

Iranians to train in Caspian Sea

LONDON (R) — Iranian Revolutionary Guards naval units will start training at new bases along the Caspian Sea coastline later this year, Iran's official news agency IRNA reported Saturday. A despatch received in London quoted a Revolutionary Guards commander as saying the newly-established training centres would concentrate on marine sciences.

Family of Irish hostage appeals for his release

BEIRUT (AP) — The family of Irish hostage Brian Keenan Saturday appealed to the people of Lebanon to help in efforts to free the teacher on the first anniversary of his abduction.

Irish Ambassador Patrick McCabe released the appeal upon his arrival by boat in the rightist controlled port of Jounieh, 20 kilometres north of Beirut. He came from Iraq via the Cypriot port of Larnaca.

Mr. Keenan, 36, of Ormeau Road, Belfast, an English teacher at the American University of Beirut (AUB), was abducted April 11, 1986.

No group has claimed his kidnapping, but there has been speculation that he was being held by Libyan-backed Abu Nidal Palestinian extremist group.

"Brian came to Beirut to help the people of Lebanon," his family's appeal said. "So we would appeal to the Lebanese people now to help us end the torment and suffering of an Irish man's family who daily pray for safe return of Brian."

The statement said the hostage was "much loved and missed by his mother and (two) sisters."

It concluded: "As Brian's 365th day of captivity is today (Saturday), we hope our suffering shall come to an end and peace may come to the Lebanon."

A previous appeal for Mr. Keenan's release was made by the Irish Embassy in west Beirut Nov. 20, 1986.

The mission closed down in west Beirut last December after a new wave of kidnappings gripped the capital. The Irish Embassy is operating from Baghdad.

Mr. McCabe is Ireland's ambassador to Iraq and plans to submit credentials to Lebanese President Amin Gemayel during his visit.

Kidnappers of British journal-

ist John McCarthy, who disappeared April 17, 1986, are also suspected to be members of the Abu Nidal group.

Mr. McCarthy, 31, of Barnet, north London, worked for the London-based Worldwide Television News. He was kidnapped on the Beirut airport highway while trying to catch a flight to London two days after the U.S. air strike on Libya.

A day after Mr. McCarthy's abduction, the gunshots bodies of kidnapped American librarians and two British teachers were found dumped off a tree-lined highway in Lebanon's central mountains east of Beirut.

A note left beside the corpses said the Arab Revolutionary Cells "executed" them to avenge the British-supported U.S. air raids against Libya. The group is believed linked to Abu Nidal.

The victims were Kilburn, 61, an AUB librarian who disappeared Dec. 3, 1984, Leigh Douglas, 34, a political science professor at AUB, and Philip Padfield, 40, director of a privately-owned language teaching centre in west Beirut. Both Britishers disappeared March 28, 1986.

A week later, the Revolutionary Organisation of Socialist Muslims, which is also believed linked to Abu Nidal, released a videotape purporting to show kidnapped British journalist Alec Collette hanged. It said he was killed in revenge for the U.S. raids on Libya.

Mr. Collette, 65, was kidnapped March 25, 1985 while on a writing assignment for the U.N. relief and works agency (UNRWA) for Palestinian refugees.

U.N. officials who knew Mr. Collette have said they could not confirm that the body shown in the videotape was that of the British writer.

Shultz heads for Moscow

(Continued from page 1)

missiles have a range up to 1,600 kilometres.

Mr. Reagan said he was determined to stick with his arms-control agenda despite the widening spy scandal that has hit both the current and new U.S. embassy buildings in Moscow. Three Marine guards at U.S. missions in the Soviet Union have been arrested on charges of espionage.

The guards, were allegedly swayed by sexual liaisons with Soviet women to give Soviet agents access to restricted areas.

"There's no excuse for what the Soviets did nor for the way security was handled in Moscow," Mr. Reagan said.

A White House official, who spoke on condition of not being identified, said Mr. Reagan's comment was a complaint that U.S. officials failed to protect the security of the embassy in Moscow.

On Saturday, TASS attacked Mr. Reagan for saying that espionage against the U.S. embassy in Moscow was typical of the Soviet Union.

"The president has joined in the unhealthy fuss raised by conservative circles in the United States in an attempt to frustrate positive tendencies in Soviet-American relations," it said.

U.S. embassy warns Americans and tightens security in India

NEW DELHI (AP) — The U.S. embassy said Saturday it has been warning prominent American businessmen in India and tightening security following reports that Palestinian guerrillas could strike American targets here next week.

Next Wednesday, April 15, is the first anniversary of the U.S. bombing raid against Libya which the U.S. accuses of masterminding anti-U.S. extremism.

Security is being tightened around the capital and at airports, police intelligence sources said.

An American businessman told AP on Saturday that he had been warned by the embassy that there could be a Palestinian anti-American attack in the capital on or around next Wednesday, April 15.

A senior U.S. embassy official, speaking on condition of anonymity, confirmed to AP Saturday by telephone that high-visibility Americans and major U.S. offices and installations were being warned as a matter of routine. He said the warning had been received more than two weeks ago.

The official said information had been received and passed on by the Indian government and appropriate action was being

taken by the U.S. embassy to advise Americans and strengthen security.

Indian news reports and intelligence sources last month said that at least five Palestinian guerrillas from the Abu Nidal faction had slipped into India and intend to commit violence.

India, which vigorously supports the Palestinian cause, has not witnessed much Arab violence. It denounced the U.S. air raid against Libya as naked aggression and state terrorism against a fellow non-aligned nation.

But in November 1984, a group linked to Abu Nidal claimed responsibility for murdering the British deputy high commissioner in Bombay, Percy Norris.

The motive was believed to be the imprisonment of three Abu Nidal men in England for the June 1982 attempted murder of Shlomo Argov, Israeli ambassador to London.

The Abu Nidal group, which split from the mainstream Palestine Liberation Organisation, is blamed for a string of major attacks. Among the latest are the hijacking of a U.S. Pan American jetliner from Bombay to Karachi last Sept. 5.

Suddarth in Beirut

BEIRUT (AP) — A U.S. State Department official arrived Saturday on a fact-finding mission about efforts to resolve Lebanon's civil war and convene an international conference on the Middle East conflict, U.S. embassy officials said.

Roscoe Suddarth, assistant secretary of state for Middle East affairs, flew into east Beirut, said the officials.

Mr. Suddarth held separate conference with Foreign Ministry Under-Secretary Fuad Turk and Telecommunications Minister Joseph Hashem, they said.

Mr. Hashem is a ranking member of the leading rightist Falange Party.

Mr. Suddarth made no statement to reporters after the meetings, which were attended by U.S. Ambassador John Kelly.

Mr. Suddarth is also scheduled to meet President Amin Gemayel during his visit, which the officials said would last a few days.

Mr. Suddarth will report to State Department Under-Secretary Richard Murphy on the outcome of his talks, they said.

Morocco says 24 soldiers and 80 Polisario men killed in battle

RABAT (Agencies) — Moroccan armed forces killed 80 guerrillas and lost 24 soldiers and officers in a battle in the Western Sahara on Wednesday, according to the army.

A communiqué issued here by army headquarters Friday night said the troops foiled a desperate attempt by Polisario guerrillas to breach defence lines at a place called Jebel Brika.

The place could not be located on current maps, Reuters said. It said the battle lasted between 0530 and 0800 hours GMT but gave no other details.

The Moroccan communiqué came hours after Algerian-backed Polisario guerrillas said they had killed 157 Moroccans and taken 17 prisoners in a big battle on Wednesday in the Hawza sector in the north-eastern part of the disputed territory.

In a communiqué published Thursday night by the official Algerian news agency APS, the Polisario said its guerrillas breached the Moroccan defence lines and penetrated 15 kilometres to destroy several

Moroccan command posts and an artillery battery.

The Polisario communiqué did not mention guerrilla losses.

Heavy fighting has been reported in the same area since Feb. 25 when both sides said the Polisario launched an attack on Moroccan defence lines between Mahbes and Farsia, an area close to the Algerian frontier.

The February battle was the first major attack Polisario in over two years and the Algerian-backed guerrillas said it signalled the start of a major offensive against Moroccan defence lines which stretch for 1,600 kilometres across the desert.

Polisario has been fighting the Moroccans since Rabat's 1975 annexation of the Sahara territory. In the past few years, the Moroccans have built the sand and rock wall running parallel to much of the territory's frontier and recently extended to the Atlantic coast, to keep the Polisario out of the few economic centres of the mainly barren desert region.

E. Germany assails Herzog

EAST BERLIN (Agencies) — The East German Communist Party denounced Israeli President Chaim Herzog on Saturday for using a West Berlin visit this week to accuse it of playing down Nazi treatment of the Jews.

"Mr. President, would it not have been better if you had remained silent," the party newspaper Neues Deutschland said in a commentary.

Mr. Herzog said on Thursday in a speech made a few kilometres from the Berlin Wall that East Germany maintained a "poignant silence" on the fate of Jews during the 12-year Nazi rule.

Neues Deutschland said many of the country's own leaders had suffered at the hands of the Nazis.

"Respect for the victims of fascism, including of course the millions of Jewish people murdered, is a basic philosophy of our land," Neues Deutschland said.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel. 73111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Koran
15:30 Programme Review
15:35 A Whole World of Children
16:30 Give Me a Break
17:30 World Alive
18:00 Local Agricultural Programme
18:30 Local Series
19:30 Local Programme
19:50 Programme Review
20:30 News in Arabic
21:30 Arab Series
22:30 Faces and Events
23:00 Local variety programme
23:30 News summary in Arabic
23:10 Varieties contd.

PROGRAMME TWO

17:30 Les sports des Femmes
18:00 News in French
19:15 La Force du destin
19:30 News in Hebrew
19:40 Varieties
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Growing Pains
21:10 Japan Behind the Mask (documentary)
22:00 News in English
22:30 Robbery Under Arms (mini series)

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM & partly on KHz, SW, Tel. 73111-19

7:30

Light Music
Newsdesk
Morning Show
Pop Session
In Concert
News Summary
Pop Talk
News Summary
Pop Session contd.
News Bulletin
Instrumentals
Science Report
Concert Hour
News Summary
Instrumentals
Old Favourites
Licenses Choice
News Summary
Jazz Hour
Newsdesk
Date with a Star
Evening Show
News Summary
Evening Show continued

21:55

News Summary

22:00 News Summary

22:30 News Summary

22:57 News Headline

23:00 Close Down

BBC WORLD SERVICE

630, 720, 1323 KHz

07:00 Newsdesk 07:30 Folk Entertainers

07:45 Reflections 07:50 Financial Review

08:00 World News 08:05 24 Hours: News Summary 08:30 Cantata

08:45 Letter from America 09:00 Newsdesk 09:30 Choirs of Britain

10:00 World News 10:05 24 Hours: News Summary 10:30 From Our Own Correspondent

10:35 World News 11:05 Reflections 11:15 The Pleasures of Youth 12:00 News

12:05 British Press Review 12:15 Science in Action 12:45 At Home with...

13:00 News Summary 13:30 Religious Service 14:00 World News 14:05 News About Britain 14:15

Report from Our Own Correspondent 14:20 At the Court of... 15:00 News Summary

15:05 Interpreters — Part One 15:30 Play of the Week: Intimate Exchanges

16:00 World News 16:05 24 Hours: News Summary 16:30 Sports Roundup

16:45 The Sandy Jones Request Show 17:30 Half Hour Drama 18:00 Radio

Newsweek 18:15 Concert Hall 19:00 World News 19:05 Commentary 19:15

Open Door Policies 19:45 Letter from America 20:00 World News 20:05

Reflections 20:15 Meridian 20:45 Sports Roundup 21:00 Newsdesk 21:30 41

Makes Me Laugh 22:15 The British Library 01:00 Hotel du Lac 02:15

Letter from America 02:30 Questions of Faith

VOICE OF AMERICA

MW 1260 & SW 7200, 9565, 1174, 11925 and 15210 KHz

06:00 News 06:10 VOA Morning 06:30

News Summary 07:00 VOA Morning 07:30 News

Report 07:50 VOA Morning 08:00 News

08:10 VOA Morning 08:30 News Summary 09:00 VOA Morning 09:00 News

09:10 Focus 09:30 News Summary 09:30 VOA Morning 10:00 News 10:10

Horizons and News Products 10:30 Studio One 10:40 News 10:45 Encounter

10:50 Special English News & Features 20:00 News 20:10 Cynic's Choice 20:30

Issues in the News 21:00 News 21:10 Focus 21:30 Special English News &

Features 22:00 News 22:10 Sunday Newsdesk 22:30 Music USA Standards

23:00 News & Editorial 23:15 The Concert Hall 24:00 News 24:10 News

Horizons and News Products 24:30 Studio One

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

* Art exhibition by Jordanian artist Carl Younis, at Alia Art Gallery runs through April 16.

* An art exhibition by Mohammad Qaitouh, at the Spanish Cultural Centre, Amman.

* Ceramics exhibition by Jim Mason at the British Council (until April 16).

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre... Tel. 6610267

American Centre... 64471

American Cultural Library... 641320

British Council... 6361478

French Cultural Centre... 637009

Goethe Institute... 641955

Soviet Cultural Centre... 642023

Spanish Cultural Centre... 624049

Turkish Cultural Centre... 639777

Yahya Azzam Centre... 665195

Hussein Youth City... 6671816

Y.W.C.A... 641793

Amman Municipal Library... 637111

Univ. of Jordan Library... 848353

MUSEUMS

"Children's Heritage and Science Museum" Fun and knowledge for all ages, plus a small planetarium at the

Haya Arts Centre. Open all week 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed on Friday.

19th Century Museum and costumes over 100 years old. Also movies from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman

Swareddahab arrives to attend Arab Council on Childhood, Development

AMMAN (Petra) — Former head of the now-dissolved military council in Sudan Field Marshal Abdul Rahman Swareddahab arrived here Saturday to take part in the meeting of the constituent assembly of the Arab Council on Childhood and Development which will open here today under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan,

the Regent.

Arab Labour Organisation (ALO) Director General Al Hashemi Al Banani also arrived here Saturday to take part in the meeting.

Field Marshal Swareddahab gave a statement on his arrival and expressed his pleasure at being in Jordan to attend this

meeting. He said that the founding of the Arab Council on Childhood and Development was a major event at this stage and would greatly contribute towards improving the well-being of children in the Arab World. The choice of Jordan as the venue for this meeting emphasises the Kingdom's increasing role at the Arab and international arenas, he added.

Field Marshal Swareddahab also said that Jordan has been a pioneer in launching initiatives for all causes of the Arab Nation, especially those related to childhood and the future of Arab youth.

The meeting will discuss the venue for the council, its terms of reference and its functions with regard to Arab children, education and development in general, in addition to the execution of a programme for developing the status of Arab children through cooperation with national institutions and with the help of specialists and research centres. The idea for the council was initiated and advocated by the first Arab conference on childhood and development, held in Tunis last November.



Prince Talal Ibn Abdel Aziz, chairman of the Arab Gulf Programme for United Nations Development Organisations, Saturday tours a sheltered workshop near Sahab which offers training and rehabilitation to mentally handicapped people (Petra photo)

Prince Talal visits workshop for mentally handicapped

AMMAN (J.T.) — Prince Talal Ibn Abdel Aziz, chairman of the Arab Gulf Programme for United Nations Development Organisations (AGFUND) on Saturday visited a workshop run by the Young Women's Muslim Association (YWMA) at Sahab, south east of Amman.

The project has been financed by AGFUND which offers financial help to Jordan along with many other developing nations. Prince Talal, arrived in Amman on Friday evening to attend the constituent assembly meeting of the Arab Council on Childhood and Development which opens in Amman today under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent.

The workshop at Sahab is a pilot project for training and rehabilitating mentally retarded people.

Prince Talal, accompanied by Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaled Al Haj Hassan, toured the workshop and was briefed on its programmes.

Later, he visited Al Hussein Medical Centre and met with Dr. Daoud Hanania, director of the Armed Forces Royal Medical Services, and toured a number of sections.

AGFUND has spent \$5 million in the course of implementing projects in Jordan in addition to granting \$545,000 to the YWMA to help it carry out its programmes.

Greater Amman Council endorses JD 33.9m budget

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Members of the Greater Amman Council (GAC) Saturday endorsed the council's JD 33.9 million 1987 budget which is to be spent on the 14 municipalities and 11 villages which joined Amman Municipality four months ago. The 51-member council was briefed on the financial situation of the GAC before they became part of the council on Jan. 1, 1987.

Of the total members, budget surpluses were recorded in one municipality and two village councils, while the deficit for Amman Municipality until Jan. 1 of this year amounted to JD 2.1 million.

Meeting under the chairmanship of Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh, the

gathering also endorsed a total of 144 new job openings at the council for 1987.

The meeting also approved a JD 1,989,000 tender for asphalt paving a total of two million square metres in various parts of the Greater Amman area.

The two-hour assembly also approved a tender for purchasing 2,000 metal containers and 600 plastic containers and discussed 15 other topics on the meeting's working agenda.

One of the most important items dealt with during the gathering was a memorandum prepared by Mr. Rawabdeh regarding a memorandum agreement reached between the council and the World Bank under which amendments made on a loan secured for the council's transport development schemes were lowered to \$51 million from \$65 million.

Businessmen from Jordan and Egypt to review trade exchange

CAIRO (Petra) — The second annual meeting of a Jordanian-Egyptian businessmen's council opens in Cairo today to discuss trade exchange between Jordan and Egypt. The two-day meeting will tackle questions related to transport, communications, shipping and the Aqaba-Nuweiba land-sea route as well as investment prospects for businessmen in either country, according to Mr. Mamdouh Qatarnah, head of the Jordanian delegation to the meeting.

TCC to expand telephone services in rural areas

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Telecommunication Corporation (TCC) will provide modern automatic telephone services to 425 towns and villages in the rural regions of Jordan within its present 1986-90 five-year plan. TCC Director General Mohammad Shahid Ismail said Saturday.

He said that once implemented, the project will double the Kingdom's automatic telephone services and 16 telephones will be available for every 100

persons living in the country. Providing modern telephone services to people in rural regions is bound to stem the movement of inhabitants from rural to urban regions and will also promote economic and social development as a whole, Mr. Ismail said.

He said that the five-year plan envisages further improvements in tele, postal and telegraphic services in all regions of the Kingdom.

Jordan, Oman open meetings on promoting economic relations

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan and Oman Saturday opened talks aimed at bolstering bilateral economic and trade ties in implementation of agreements signed last year. The talks are within the framework of the joint Jordanian-Omani economic committee.

Omani Minister of Industry and Trade Salem Al Ghazali is heading the Omani side while the Jordanian side to the meetings is led by Minister of Industry and Trade Rajal Muasher.

At the outset of the meeting, Dr. Muasher made a speech in

which he praised the existing relations between the two countries in general and in economic fields in particular. The Omani minister said that the two sides are intent on promoting their bilateral economic and trade cooperation and will put an agreement they signed last year into practice.

Mr. Ghazali and Dr. Muasher later discussed a number of topics on the agenda which, according to spokesman for the Ministry of Industry, dealt mainly with increasing the volume of trade exchanged between Oman and Jordan.

The spokesman said that the talks will resume on Sunday.

The Omani minister arrived in Amman earlier on Saturday on a three-day visit to Jordan and in a statement upon arrival said that the joint Jordanian-Omani economic committee will discuss implementing joint economic ventures and establishing a barter-trading company.

The Omani minister, who is accompanied by an official delegation, was greeted upon arrival by Dr. Muasher and senior government officials.

New JMA president to press for continuation of public sector doctors' overtime allowance

By Salameh B. Ne'matt Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Dr. Mamdouh Abbadi, the newly-elected president of the Jordan Medical Association (JMA) Saturday said that working to halt a pending government decision to slash overtime allowances for public sector doctors was the main item on his agenda.

Dr. Abbadi, who was elected Friday, said such an action by the government would hurt nearly 1,000 doctors working in the public sector and "will reflect badly on their performance." The allowance makes up nearly 35 per cent of the salary of a government-employed doctor.

"We will demand a halt to the decision," Dr. Abbadi said, adding that "we will do all we can to convince the government against it."

Dr. Abbadi told the Jordan Times that the allowance paid to public sector doctors since 1965 "should not be seen the same way as overtime paid to other government employees." He explained that these doctors were originally paid the 35 per cent allowance "as an incentive to leave their private clinics and work for the government. It should not be considered overtime," he stressed.

Dr. Abbadi said the cost to the government treasury for keeping the allowances was nearly JD 600,000. "We should not let the doctors' performance deteriorate and their work hours shrink for that little," he said.

Dr. Abbadi secured 769 votes against 569 votes for Dr. Hassan Badran, 312 votes for Dr. Ahmad Salman and 52 votes for Dr. Izzeddin Farsakh in elections characterised by a low voter turnout.

The nine council seats were won by Dr. Daoud Muhsen (874 votes); Dr. Mahmoud Qatarnah (806); Dr. Musa Abu Hmeid (795); Dr. Marwan Hindi (721); Dr. Ahmad Aramot (707); Dr. Ahmad Tarni (680); Dr. Ahmad Fakher (654); Dr. Hani Haddadin (660); Dr. Mustafa Shneikat (630). Dr. Samir Katbeh won by



Dr. Mamdouh Abbadi

nomination for the tenth seat traditionally allotted for West Bank doctors. Twenty-one doctors competed for the nine-seat council.

Only 1,731 out of a registered 3,510 doctors cast their votes in the three election centres in Amman, Irbid and Karak. There are over 7,000 doctors who are members of the association.

In his interview with the Jordan Times, Dr. Abbadi said there were "some loopholes" in the medical council's laws. He said the council, established in 1982 to provide the continuous medical teaching and assessment of specialist doctors, "is not really doing either of these two goals."

He said that only recently, the medical council started to test specialist doctors educated abroad but added that, however, "there are some difficulties in these tests. Many doctors who studied abroad he said, 'are failing the test because of its complexity. There is a need to develop the examination's methods.'"

Another association goal cited by Dr. Abbadi is achieving health insurance for all the employed and their families in the country.

Voting was open for 12 hours between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. Friday during which 1,396 doctors voted at the Professional Associations' Complex in Amman, 261 in Irbid and 73 in Karak. Dr. Abbadi's victory was announced around midnight.

Dr. Abbadi who succeeds the association's former president Hassan Khreis, had predicted his own victory two days before the elections saying he would secure

nearly a 200 vote lead over his closest competitor.

Dr. Abbadi pledged in his electoral programme to work towards solving the profession's main problem of unemployment through demanding an increase in the financial budgets of public health institutions. He said that the budget of these institutions had not yet reached the target set by the World Health Organisation.

Dr. Abbadi said he would be working towards an amendment in the Jordanian labour law in an effort to commit commercial companies and institutions to insure their employees and their families. He called on the Ministry of Health to cooperate with the Jordan Medical Association towards the goal of improving conditions for public sector doctors who he said were "the victims of supply and demand."

During his campaign Dr. Badran underlined the need to expand training and rehabilitation programmes for doctors in cooperation with private and public hospitals.

Salman called for changes in the association's law in a way that could revitalise its functions in the service of doctors. He stressed the need for a more active participation by members of the association but did not specify where the changes should be made.

Successive association candidates have been urging a scientific and comprehensive approach to the planning of medical services and a fair distribution of these services in accordance with demographic and geographic divisions.

They also called for a need to solve the growing problem of unemployment among doctors and the need to extend medical services to rural and remote areas, ending the concentration of these services in towns and cities.

There are increasing numbers of newly graduated doctors who are unable to find jobs in the country, reflecting a surplus in graduates as well as a lack of planning.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Decree okays envoy's appointment

AMMAN (Petra) — A Royal Decree was issued Saturday endorsing the appointment of Mr. Fakhri Abu Taleb as Jordan's non-resident ambassador plenipotentiary to the Maldives.

CAEU financial committee ends meetings

AMMAN (Petra) — A financial and monetary committee formed by the Amman-based Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU) Saturday concluded a three-day meeting calling on Arab financial institutions to increase their involvement in financing Arab projects. A statement during the final session stressed the importance of pan-Arab economic schemes and said that the delegations discussed a number of studies connected with the coordination of taxation systems in Arab countries. The recommendations, the statement said, will be referred to the 47th meeting of the CAEU which is due to meet in Amman in June. The committee groups representatives of seven Arab countries.

Seminar to discuss preventing road accidents

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian Society for the Prevention of Road Accidents in coordination with the Goethe Institute in Amman will hold a seminar on Monday to discuss national plans for the prevention of road accidents. The director of city planning in West Berlin as well as specialists from Jordan will deliver lectures during the seminar which will be held at the Professional Associations' Complex.

Mafrag sewerage project nears completion

MAFRAQ (Petra) — The sewerage project for Mafrag town is nearing completion and at present tests are being conducted to ensure that those sewers already laid in the city are operational. Mafrag Governor Fayed Abbadi announced on Saturday. He said that the project, which cost JD 1.49 million, entailed laying 90 kilometres of pipes and building a wastewater treatment plant which has a capacity of 1,800 cubic metres a day.

IDB supports 44 new ventures

AMMAN (Petra) — The Industrial Development Bank (IDB) granted loans totalling JD 122,700 to 44 businesses during the first quarter of 1987. The bank extends loans to new businesses or owners to help finance the establishment or expansion of their projects.

S. Korean parliamentarians due Sunday

AMMAN (Petra) — A South Korean parliamentary delegation is due here Sunday on a visit to Jordan expected to last several days. The delegation will be meeting with Speakers of the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament Ahmad Al Lawzi and Akel Al Fayed and other Jordanian officials. They will also tour Jordan's tourist and archaeological sites.

Boogie down to a strong rhythm section

By Jean-Claude Elias Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A series of five concerts, organised by the French Cultural Centre in Amman in cooperation with the Royal Jordanian, Gi-Rho-Ma and the Plaza Hotel will feature the French group Boogie Jam's.

The performance on April 23 in Aqaba (at the Holiday Inn, 20:30) is under the patronage of His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein. The other concerts are at New York — New York restaurant on April 16 at 18:00 and 22:00, at the Plaza Hotel on April 18 at 20:30 and at Yarmouk University on April 19 at 17:00, in the scope of its annual festival. Boogie Jam's is Bernard Gonzalez on drums, Denis Dubois de Montreynaud on bass, Andre Lowenthal on guitar, Michel Fallet on trumpet, Hugues Bozetto and Vincent Trouille on tenor saxophones and Francois Leroux on piano and vocals.

Rhythm'n'Blues

Their love for American Rhythm'n'Blues music of the fifties has made the seven musicians create Boogie Jam's. Their inspiration comes from the music of Fats Domino, Sunny Boy Williamson, Louis Jordan, Carl Perkins and the great Ray Charles. One of their records includes an adaptation of Ray Charles' "Hal-



Boogie Jam's

lelujah, I Love Her So." The band's original sound is characterised by a strong rhythm section. Although they use some electrical instruments, like the two guitars and the Yamaha PF15 Electric Piano played by Francois, the band delivers very natural music and does not look for the "synthesised" sound which is now the trade mark of so many groups. The personality of the group's members appears through their "modernisation" (but not alteration) of the old hits. Boogie Jam's rhythms and riffs talk to the audience directly, almost physically, never cerebrally. The result is an extremely enjoyable experience.

In spite of slight jazz or rock accents, the music of Boogie Jam's remains traditionally Rhythm'n'Blues. Francois

Leroux, presently living and working in Amman, was the man behind the project of bringing the band to perform in Jordan. He has been playing classical music for 14 years and has performed in many different situations, including playing the church pipe organ at the Cathedral de Reims (the band's hometown), in France. Francois told the Jordan Times about his love for the music of Otis Redding, Wilson Pickett, Tina Turner and other black musicians who influenced the world of Rhythm'n'Blues music from 1965 to 1975.

The arrival of Boogie Jam's in Jordan is an exceptional opportunity to listen to a version of Ray Charles' "What'd I say," one you have probably never heard before!

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Sunday's Economic Pulse

By Dr. Fahed Fanek

Initiative and market forces are being suppressed in agricultural sector

THE present government has committed itself to the encouragement of individual initiatives and to the reduction of government intervention in the economic life, except when absolutely necessary.

The public sector has already been involved, at varying degrees, in the process of economic decision-making in all sectors of the economy. Therefore, it was important to gradually let the private sector undertake free initiatives and take more risks.

The agricultural sector has always been the least exposed to the intervention of the public sector. Farmers have always been free to produce whatever they find suitable, led only by the market forces and guided by price fluctuations.

On the other hand the spread of agricultural production all over the country, and the participation of thousands of small scale farmers, rendered governmental intervention impractical. The government confined its role to overall direction and support.

However, the Ministry of Agriculture is now seen to be tempted to get involved deeper in the details of the production process. Such intervention is bound to pose huge responsibilities on the ministry, and to adversely affect farmers who now face the ministry's directives, orders and licenses.

Following are some actual examples:

— The leasing of government-owned land has been set at a minimum of 5,000 dunums. The ministry decided that the minimum capital allocated per dunum should be JD 200. This means that only super rich individuals and finance corporations qualify for benefit-

ting from this facility. Small farmers, however, are completely excluded. The ministry will deal with businessmen and banks who are after quick profits at the expense of government subsidies.

— The ministry decided to buy the wheat produced by the leased lands at a heavily subsidised price that is threefold the international market price. Under these circumstances, the real value added to the country will be negative. The handful of investors may generate profit at a very high price in public funds. Poor farmers however deserve more if there is no alternative to subsidies.

— The ministry has regulated the sale of chickens to avoid a surplus in table egg production. It formed a central committee to supervise each sale of chicken. Local governors have been charged with the responsibility of surveying chicken farms with powers to close those who sell chicken without a license.

— The ministry also intends to be in charge of poultry farms through a central coordinating office. The office would count the chicken in each farm all over the country, and destroy any excess to prevent prices from declining. Thousands of chicken were killed to control supply, and keep prices at high levels.

— Moreover, the ministry will encourage the establishment of a cooperative society for poultry farms, similar to that of egg producers. Farmers would deliver their products at a high price to the cooperative society, who, in turn would worry about selling them to the consumers at above market prices, or become dependent on public funds to cover losses and pay dividends to inefficient producers, whose imported contents are above 80 per

cent. Thus the ministry is going to make sure that market forces will be suppressed.

— It is also known that all agricultural products are priced daily to protect consumers, despite the fact that vegetable, and fruit prices are currently 25 per cent lower than their level in 1980, in real terms. The pricing is, of course, ridiculous because it is based on the prevailing prices in the whole sale market in the previous day which may be irrelevant the following day.

— The ministry decided to control the use of green (plastic) houses to reduce tomato production. This entails the inspection of 2,500 plastic houses scattered between Ramtha and Aqaba and violators would be punished.

— The ministry introduced the so-called agricultural pattern, whereby its staff decide on what to produce and the areas to be utilised for each kind of products under license, and who will be licensed to produce what.

Perhaps the Ministry of Agriculture is willing and happy to assume all these responsibilities, but this would mean an end to individual initiative in the agricultural sector, and the complete discarding of the free economy concept and market economies, and in contrast to the official government policy.

In the Soviet Union and China, farmers are given more freedom to produce for the market, while our Ministry of Agriculture swims against the current and tries hard to uproot farmers from their lands.

Peres' diplomatic game

YITZHAK Shamir's hawkish image and Shimon Peres' liberal views may well be seen as two sides of the same coin. Their approaches to an Arab-Israeli peace settlement are different, but their basic goals remain essentially the same. For Shamir, an international conference to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict is sheer nonsense. But, for Peres, to come to that conclusion is a fairly convoluted process as he wants to maintain a liberal image for himself. Of late, Peres has vigorously championed the cause of an Arab-Israeli peace settlement and traversed distances as far away as Morocco, Egypt and Western Europe, apparently withstanding the Likud bloc's vituperous opposition to his mission. Much of the gimmicks performed by him in this connection seems to have been meant to impress on the Arab World that Shimon Peres is not Yitzhak Shamir, neither in style nor in functioning.

At a time when there has emerged a real consensus among the European nations regarding the importance of convening an international conference to settle the Arab-Israeli conflict and the likelihood of the U.S. going along with the European position, Peres made a volte face. He does not show that he is opposed to the holding of an international conference; but he places conditions in such a way that it would be impossible to hold one at all.

No international conference aimed at resolving the Arab-Israeli conflict would be worthwhile and complete unless there is an active Soviet participation in it. But Peres has placed two important conditions for the Soviets to qualify for participation: that the Soviet Union reestablish diplomatic relations with Israel, broken off since the 1967 Arab-Israeli war, and that the Kremlin allow at least 30,000 to 40,000 Soviet Jews to emigrate annually to Israel. It goes without saying that the Soviet Jews thus emigrated would ultimately be made to settle down on the Israeli-occupied West Bank. Already the Israeli cabinet has been told to budget \$200 million to settle 10,000 newcomers in Israel.

By raising the deal demands, Peres has not only swallowed hook, line, and sinker all that he has been saying about the holding of an international conference, but also placed the Kremlin on the horns of a real dilemma. On the one hand, a Soviet participation in an international conference would be subject to an Israeli veto if the requested number of Soviet Jews are not allowed to emigrate to Israel. On the other hand, if the Soviet Union were to grant the exodus of so many thousand Jews, how could it be sure that these very same Jews will not be settled down on the West Bank, thus indirectly sharing complicity with the nefarious Zionist plot of consolidating the occupied Arab territories? In such an event, how could the Soviets argue against Israel in an international conference for vacating the occupied territories on which the Soviet Jews have made their homes? One should admit that Peres has not only performed a superb hat-trick in his diplomatic game with the Soviets but also ingeniously moved to scuttle the very concept of an international conference in which he hardly believes; nonetheless taking much pains to create a facade to make others believe him.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Resistance escalates in West Bank

THE occupied Arab territories are these days witnessing a new and bold manifestation of resistance activity that enhances the Palestinian people's pride and their self-confidence. The general strike staged in the cities of the occupied West Bank is a manifestation of solidarity with the Arab detainees in Israeli jails who are being tormented and mistreated by the Israeli occupation authorities. Arab people in the cities, in the camps and in the villages of the Israeli-held Arab land have gone on strike to show solidarity with and support for their detained kinsmen; and this show of resistance has now extended to the occupied Syrian Golan Heights and is spreading rapidly to other regions. What is fuelling the Arab resistance is continued Israeli arbitrary measures inside the occupied territories. The Israelis have closed a technical institute in Hebron and most recently, closed the Friends School in Ramallah and they continue to impose heavy fines and taxes on the Arab inhabitants and on university students. The Arabs under Israeli rule continue to escalate their resistance against the Israeli invaders and continue to thwart enemy plans and evil designs. This new wave of resistance in the occupied territories is a clear call for Arab countries to join their ranks and work in one unity to force the Israelis to accept peace in exchange for land and to put an end through various means to Israel's acts of terrorism against the Arab population.

Al Dustour: Jordan will pursue peace

UPON concluding his tour in Europe by a meeting with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, King Hussein announced that Jordan will continue to pursue all possible efforts for convening an international peace conference on the Middle East to be held under United Nations auspices. The idea of the proposed conference has been backed by the European Community nations and this development has encouraged Jordan to pursue its efforts for overcoming obstacles in the way of this conference. One of the major obstacles in the path of this conference is the attitude of the United States whose government officials are still supporting Israel's view of conducting direct negotiations between the Arabs and Israel. Britain had until recently supported Washington's view, but thanks to Jordan's relentless efforts, London has now taken a positive stand; and the government of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, now openly supports the convening of the conference. This British support has great significance in view of Britain's important status within the European Community and due to its close ties with the United States, and for being a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council. Jordan's intensive contacts with various world nations over the past few days are still in need of further backing and still await practical moves from the European Community and Britain and also from the Arab countries.

Sawt Al Shaab: Another Iranian suicide

THE Iranians consider their Karbala battles against Iraq as preludes for the major offensive which they still prepare to launch on the Arab country. Their leaders still consider this year as the final year of the war in which they hope to achieve a decisive victory on Iraq. But observers of the developments in the on-going war clearly see the Iranians losing one battle after another due to their failure to breach the southern front though they have sacrificed tens of thousands of troops in the process. The on-going Karbala 9 battle in the central sector of the front will end up in total failure again, due to the resistance of the Iraqi armed forces and the cohesion of the Iraqi society behind its leader. The Iraqis have greatly strengthened their armed forces and are now in far better position than ever before, and capable of repelling aggression and inflicting heavy losses on their enemies. Therefore the Karbala 9 battle which is going on at present is another great act of suicide for the Iranian forces.

By Galina Vromen
Reuter

JERUSALEM — When engineering student Mohammad Nagger married a Romanian girl in Bucharest seven years ago, he hoped to bring her home to the Israeli-occupied West Bank.

But like thousands of other Palestinians, Nagger has been increasingly frustrated by Israel's refusal to grant his wife Lutecia and six-year-old daughter Lena permission to move to his home town on Ramallah.

Lutecia, now expecting their second child, and Romanian-born Lena travel between Bucharest and the West Bank on tourist visas or stay in Ramallah illegally at the risk of being summarily expelled.

Angry over Israeli restrictions, the family has joined a newly formed group of Palestinians demanding that Israel ease its policy on family reunification in the West Bank and occupied Gaza Strip.

"I can't afford to pay for my wife to come and go like this any more," said Mohammad Nagger, now a worker at a lens factory. "The Israelis are crying for people to come, but not Palestinians. They want us to leave."

Israeli authorities claim they must impose limits because otherwise thousands of Palestinians would come and strain the economy of the West Bank and Gaza and reduce water resources.

Inspired by Israeli campaigns for Soviet Jewish emigration, Palestinians have stepped up protests over the problem that has

plagued them through much of Israel's 20-year-old military occupation of the Arab territories.

They have appealed to the Finnish embassy, representing Soviet interests in Israel, and to British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher for help in their human rights battle, and have demonstrated repeatedly in Jerusalem.

The protests have been spurred by what Palestinians say is an Israeli clampdown, making it harder than ever before for families to live together.

"There have recently been a number of (Israeli) high court decisions that show there is nowhere for us to appeal," said Palestinian lawyer Jonathan Kuttab.

"As lawyers we hear about the problems of reunification and there is nothing we can do," he said.

In an recent case, a woman in the Gaza Strip was forced to cross the border into Egypt just days after giving birth because her visa had expired. The high court upheld the action and she was told she could not rejoin her husband and older child in Gaza for at least six months.

Until recently, Palestinians often stayed in the West Bank and Gaza Strip for three months at a time, left the area for a day and then returned. But under new regulations, they must be away from Gaza for six months and the West Bank for three months before they can reapply for a visit.

"It wasn't so bad when we got married," said Bassam Taha, a

26-year-old land surveyor from Ramallah whose wife Elham is from Jordan.

Elham must leave the West Bank for three months at a time and her one-year-old son stays behind with his father because the family fears Israeli authorities would not allow the child to return.

The Israelis claim they do not know how many applications they receive for family reunification but grant about 10 to 20 per cent of the requests. Last year 1,000 permits were granted, up from 500 in 1985, the Israelis said.

"The number of those who wish to come are in the thousands and thousands and the resources of the West Bank and Gaza Strip cannot absorb such a lot of people," said West Bank civil administration spokeswoman Elize Chazar.

She said that in the first 14 years after Israel occupied the West Bank and Gaza Strip, a total of 50,000 people who happened to be outside the area at the time of the 1967 Middle East war were allowed to join their families. But the number has since dropped dramatically.

The Israelis set no criteria for determining who can come and give applicants no explanation for a rejection.

"We decide on a case-by-case humanitarian basis. If we had criteria, we would have to tell everyone who fits the criteria come," Chazar said.

Palestinians say the practice opens the way for corruption and fuels suspicions among Arabs in the territories where 1.3 million



Palestinians demonstrate last week outside the Israeli prime minister's office to demand that family members living outside Palestine be allowed to rejoin their families.

Palestinians live under Israeli occupation.

Arab middlemen try to use their ties with the Israelis to get residency visas for clients who pay hundreds of dollars for the service.

The situation causes friction among Palestinians who say the Israelis often grant the visas as a prize to collaborators.

"Wherever I see someone has managed to get a member of his family a permit, I figure he either paid a lot of money to a middleman, or he has been very, very

lucky, or he got it by collaborating with the Israelis," Nagger said.

Sandra Hamad, born in the United States to Palestinian parents, has lived illegally in Ramallah since she married a shopkeeper in the town four years ago. The Israelis refuse to grant her a permanent resident's permit, she said.

"We thought about going to middlemen, but why should we pay those high fees for something which is our right? The Israelis

know I am here, they keep telling me don't make a fuss about it, she said.

The feeling that the Israelis can throw her out at any moment is worrying and becomes a bargaining chip for authorities trying to ensure her good behaviour.

"The Israelis would like us to go away. But I'm not going anywhere. My husband doesn't believe in living in America. We have a house and land and a business here and we will stay," Hamad said.

The divided loyalties of U.S. Zionists

By Michael Jansen

A cartoon in the *Los Angeles Times* on March 8 depicts Jonathan Pollard, the Israeli spy, in the dock with the shadowy figures of five Israeli leaders — Peres, Shamir, Sharon, Arens and Rabin — behind him. The caption reads: "Unindicted co-conspirators."

The *Times* was correct in its assertion that the Israeli politico-military establishment was also on trial in the Pollard case, but it did not go far enough.

The unindicted co-conspirators are legion: Americans, mainly Jewish Zionists, who played a double game within the American establishment for over 40 years. In doing so, they have followed the dicta of Zionist and Israeli leaders who, like Nahum Goldmann, past president of the World Zionist Organisation, declare that Jews "should live not only as patriots in the country of their origin, but also as patriots of Israel." Furthermore, Jews should "fight for the recognition of double loyalties" and, if need be, "support Israel against the views of the states in which we live." (Goldmann made this characteristic statement before a meeting of the WZO in Jerusalem on February 1975, after he had become a maverick in the Zionist movement through his advocacy of the territory-for-peace formula for achieving a settlement with the Arabs.) Thus, Jewish loyalty to Israel — "our state" — should have precedence over loyalty to the countries in which Jews live — "our home."

To achieve this objective the Zionists have sensitised the diaspora Jews on Jewish issues — the holocaust, Soviet Jewry and Israel — with the object of making Jews feel it is "natural" to give their primary loyalty to Israel. Jonathan Pollard was the perfect subject for such subversion. He had a longstanding

admiration and affection for Israel, visiting it 11 times before his arrest, the last time in the spring of 1984, the occasion of his recruitment.

Israeli intelligence depends heavily on Jewish communities abroad ...

Both the FBI and CIA have confirmed that there is extensive Israeli espionage in the U.S. In 1979 the CIA produced a report entitled "Israel: foreign intelligence and security services" which stated that the "Israeli intelligence service depends heavily on the various Jewish communities and organisations abroad for recruiting agents," and that it capitalises on "Jewish racial or religious proclivities, pro-Zionism, dislike of anti-semitism ..." This report was suppressed, enabling such activities to continue without Israel being called to order.

Pollard belongs to the category of persons whose loyalties to the U.S. were subverted so that they could provide Israel with something the U.S. government was withholding in its own national interest. Such subversion of loyalties began back in 1948 when, in violation of U.S. laws, two U.S. army colonels, "Micky" Marcus and Elliot Niles, the latter in the army general staff stationed at the Pentagon, assisted in the recruitment of some 1,000 former U.S. servicemen, mostly officers and airforce personnel, to fight for the Haganah in Palestine. This assistance was crucial: without the airman there would have been no Israeli air arm and without the air arm no arms. The American pilots ferried to Israel

the Czech arms which enabled the Jewish state to win its war of establishment against the Arabs. It is, perhaps, understandable that American Jews should, after the slaughter of Jews by the Nazis only years before, provide this essential service to create a state that would give refuge to the remnants of European Jewry.

Subsequent services involving disloyalty to the U.S. have not been of this order: they have been performed to give Israel military advantage over its Arab neighbours and enable Israel to launch its aggressive wars. These loyal Zionists undertook their tasks in spite of the fact that, in 1950, the U.S. and Israel signed an agreement prohibiting covert activities against one another. There are well-documented cases: From 1957 through the 1960s Jewish Zionists within the defence establishment's nuclear industries supplied to Israel hundreds of pounds of weapons-grade nuclear material, claiming that it had "disappeared." As late as 1982 an entire cargo of unprocessed nuclear material "disappeared" from a ship in the Mediterranean and was traced to Israel. In December 1983, the U.S. and Israel concluded their strategic defence pact which included a proviso that the two countries would not spy on one another, superseding the 1950 agreement. Six months later, Jonathan Pollard was hired. And in May 1985 a wealthy Israeli film producer and a Californian businessman were investigated for shipping to Israel more than 800 electronic switches that could be used to trigger nuclear bombs.

In addition, the Zionists have also openly mobilised Jewish Zionists to bend U.S. foreign policy to Israel's will. The "Iran-gate" scandal resulted from just

such activity. The report of the Senate committee on intelligence stated that the proposal to sell arms to Iran "originated among a group of foreign arms dealers and investors" who used "Israeli officials and Michael Ledeen as intermediaries" to approach U.S. officials with their "plan for renewing U.S.-Iranian relations." Ledeen, a founding member of a group promoting U.S. military aid to Israel, the Jewish Institute of National Security Affairs, was a National Security Council consultant. Also deeply involved were Howard Teicher, a strong supporter of Israel and Middle East specialist on the NSC and boss of Colonel Oliver North, and Stephen Bryen, another founding member of the Jewish Institute, who was on the staff of Richard Perle, assistant secretary of defence. The Tower commission report on "Iran-gate" stated that Israel promoted U.S. arms sales to Iran, in pursuance of "its own interests, some in direct conflict with those of the United States."

This favouring of Israel stemmed from the belief, carefully fostered by Israel and diaspora Zionists, that there is a complete identity of interest between Israel and the United States, which there is not. This attitude was adopted by Jewish and non-Jewish Zionists in government in the U.S. before the founding of the state. The Zionists have always had their men in the White House and Congress and have ruthlessly exploited them to secure political influence, arms and money for Israel. To further their interests in Washington the Israelis established the American-Israeli Public Affairs Committee, staffed by American Zionists.

Israeli penetration of U.S. government machinery took a mas-

sive leap in the 1970s when, operating in tandem with AIPAC, Morris Amitay, son of a seventh generation Sabra and formerly Senator Abraham Ribicoff's adviser on Jewish affairs, and Richard Perle, who began as an aide to the fervent Zionist Senator Henry Jackson, recruited Jewish staff members in the Senate to work for Israel. One enthusiastic recruit to this group was Stephen Bryen, then a staff member of the Senate foreign relations committee, who at that time, came under investigation, and was eventually cleared, of passing classified documents to the Israelis. Describing their activities, Amitay said: "There are now a lot of guys at the working level up here who happen to be Jewish, who are willing to make a little bit of extra effort and to look at certain issues in terms of their Jewishness, and this is what has made this thing go very effectively in the last couple of years. These are all guys who are in a position to make the decisions in these areas for these senators."

And if a senator did not go along with such improper activities, if he came from "an state with any sizeable Jewish population," they would organise direct pressure on him from his constituents.

Between 1948 and 1982 United States Middle East policy had as its goal an accommodation between the Arabs and Israel. The Johnson reconnaissance assist-

ance during Israel's 1967 war was to give Israel territory in the West Bank and Gaza to bargain for peace with the Arabs (Stephen Green, *Taking Sides: America's secret relations with a militant Israel 1948-1967*, Faber and Faber, 1984). After the failure of the peace plan drawn up by Nixon's secretary of state, William Rogers, various interested institutions and groups in and outside of government reached a consensus; in 1973, under the Ford administration, a plan involving the exchange of the bulk of the occupied territories for peace was spelled out in the "Brookings

If a senator did not go along ... they would organise direct pressure on him...

Report." This consensus was not to Israel's liking. Perle's "little army" went to work and in the spring of 1975 secured the signatures of 76 senators on a letter warning the U.S. president against any policy detrimental to Israel. This was a seminal document, involving the total submission of U.S. Middle East interests to those of Israel. It was in this atmosphere of submission that, in September 1982, President Reagan proclaimed his own peace plan, involving Israel relinquishing occupied territory, which was, within hours, denounced by Israeli Premier Menachem Begin, and quickly dropped from the U.S. foreign policy agenda. Since then the U.S. has not seriously resumed its peacemaking role in the Middle East — Middle East International, London.

Threat of famine looms in Bangladesh

By Syed Ahmeduzzaman
Reuters

DHAKA — The food queues form before dawn in cities all over Bangladesh.

Thousands of hungry people with empty bowls gather at retail shops and around distribution vans for a chance to buy cheap grain. Many of the bowls are still empty when night comes, as there is not enough government-subsidised grain for everyone.

Queues also form every evening at various rural centres throughout Bangladesh.

In the countryside, a fortunate few line up to receive their daily wages — a sackful of grain provided under an overseas-sponsored "food for work" programme.

The daily lives of much of Bangladesh's 105 million population is dominated by one concern — hunger.

Opposition leaders say the situation is deteriorating.

The government says its emergency measures, such as the distribution of 250,000 tonnes of cheap cereal and its decision to increase grain imports, will help it weather the current food crisis.

Grain prices have soared by up

to 25 per cent in the past month, with the government blaming a poor harvest, delayed shipment of imported grain and hoarding by unscrupulous traders.

Sardar Amjad Hossain, state minister for food, told Reuters grain shortages at this time of year were not unusual because it fell between two harvests.

The cheap grain distribution and a harvest expected in the middle of April would push prices down again to "within the common man's buying capacity," he said.

Other officials are less confident.

They told Reuters Bangladesh now had only 390,000 tonnes of grain stocks. This would soon be exhausted if supplies were depleted at the present rate and fresh shipments did not arrive quickly.

Opposition leader Begum Khaleda Zia went even further on Sunday, warning that Bangladesh was on the verge of a famine.

At a Dhaka news conference, the leader of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party urged President Hossain Mohammad Ershad's government to take immediate measures to avert famine.

Her remarks coincided with

newspaper reports that thousands of hectares of crops had been destroyed by drought in the south-west of the country.

Food Minister Hossain admitted the food crisis was worrying the government, but denied the government had asked for emergency international aid.

"I think we can tide over the crisis all by ourselves," he said. Officials said the "food for work" scheme had helped ease the crisis.

For many of the people labouring on rural development projects under this scheme, however, their jobs provide only the barest of temporary relief.

In the village of Raipur, father of six, Suja Miah told Reuters the four kilogramme of wheat which make his daily wage on a "food for work" project were not enough to feed his family.

"It hardly makes one full meal a day," he said.

"This is only three months work. We are jobless through the rest of the year," Miah said. "No work means no food. We have no savings."

An official said the Raipur project would close at the end of April and some of the male workers would find alternative em-

ployment as porters or farm labourers.

The women would have nothing to do except nurse their malnourished and often sick children, he said.

"Food for work," which provides jobs for 2.4 million Bangladeshis each year, was set up with the aid of the Rome-based World Food Programme to help ease rural unemployment.

Planning Minister A.K. Khan-daker told a seminar last month that 40 per cent of Bangladesh's 30 million workforce were unemployed, 80 per cent of them in the countryside.

Although the unemployed are particularly vulnerable in the current food crisis, even those with jobs are hit by higher prices.

"We know we are asking higher fare than usual. But it still leaves barely enough to buy only two kilos of rice at close of day after paying my rickshaw owner's share," said Dhaka rickshaw driver Aminur Rahman.

To help ease the situation, Britain and Australia will supply 129,250 tonnes of wheat to Bangladesh as aid this month, and the Dhaka government has also finalised deals to buy 35,000 tonnes of rice from Burma and Pakistan.



A boy collects the family food ration at a distribution centre (Photo by Trevor Page)

Bangladesh, which has an annual per capita income of only \$131, expects to produce 14.5 million tonnes of rice and 1.5 million tonnes of wheat during the current fiscal year ending in June.

As a long-term solution to the problem of hunger, the government has launched a \$130-million programme to develop new varieties of rice and other crops suitable for the country's arid northern regions.

Researcher spells out the case against television

By Karl Habermann

THIRTY two per cent of children asked in an American survey if they would rather do without their father or their television set opted for having no father.

There are two institutions in New York that treat children television addicts. Both run special schools.

Is television really a dangerous pleasure for children?

Professor Herbert Heinrichs, a media expert and head of the Audio-Visual Centre in Hildesheim, West Germany, has found in a survey that up to the age of 14, children should not watch crime films on television on their own.

"Children, especially small children, get very involved in crime films. They personally go through the scenes and feel threatened, lost or at someone's mercy. In exciting scenes children draw close to their parents. If they cannot do this, they can be put under great strain and suffer shock."

Professor Heinrichs' organisation began by taking a look at

violence in German television. Researchers discovered that in one week there were 416 incidents of violent crime in films screened by the first and second German television channels.

In the weeks surveyed there were 103 dead on the screen, 52 serious fights, 27 shoot-outs and eight armed holdups.

To these could be added fights, arson, torture, break-ins, blackmail and kidnapping.

Heinrichs said that the high points of the test week were "A man tried to stab to death a sick person. A son shot his mother and grandmother. Criminals tried to run over another with a car. A man shot down a female bear playing with her young."

Heinrichs spoke of "many cases of direct imitation," quoting, for example: "A young boy mixed ground glass into his family's food, just as he had seen it done in an American film."

In a second instance he quoted the case of a 14-year-old from Hildesheim who made a bomb threat against the city's hospital, demanding DM5,000. He confessed after he had been arrested

that he had seen a similar threat in an American crime film.

The boy pointed out that in the American film the boy had demanded five thousand dollars. The Hildesheim boy just copied the dollar figure.

In the third case he quoted two 14-year-old girls in Kevelaer who choked a nine-year-old with a cover. They told the police: "We wanted to see what it was like when someone died, just like it is on television."

What can parents do? Heinrichs said: "More frequently say no to a television programme. Television should not take over the duties parents have to train and guide their children."

He said that in the evening limits should be imposed on television viewing. "Up until they are 13 children should only be allowed to watch television after nine o'clock in special cases, when there are programmes suitable to children."

He added that parents should show an interest in special programmes for children and watch these programmes together with their children.

Surveys show that television is top of the list of ways of spending leisure time for children between the ages of six and 14.

Heinrichs reports that 13-year-olds in this country watch between two and a half to three hours of television per day. In America children in the preschool age watch on average 30 hours of TV a week, about a third of their waking lives.

Television's authority is considerable. A study revealed that 43 per cent of children gave television the highest grade for credibility. Radio followed with 25 per cent, newspapers 14 per cent and in last position illustrated magazines.

Heinrichs said: "In more and more cases German psychologists are being asked for advice about television addiction, the symptoms of which are a lack of concentration, reduced school performance and learning difficulties."

Of 2,500 school-beginners in Hamburg 1,500 had behavioural disturbances, most of them because they had watched too much television.

They did not sleep peacefully, were aggressive, extremely nervous and had poor appetites.

The first and second German television channels publish weekly surveys of what children had watched on TV.

One example: "Eduard Zimmermann's Aktenzeichen XY... a programme that re-enacts unsolved crimes and appeals for public help in tracking down wrong-doers, is watched regularly by 1.5 million children between the age of eight and 13." The television stations said that 150,000 three to seven-year olds watched this programme.

Why do so many children prefer adult programmes? Professor Heinrichs commented: "Children like to do what adults do. For many there is 'social prestige' among their friends to have seen a 'fantastic programme'."

He continued: "There are parents who allow their children to watch television late into Saturday evening, so that everyone is tired on Sunday morning and they can all sleep in."

Even babies react to television. Babies from 20 to 30 days old

react in various ways to sounds and voices, showing reactions that extend from pleasure to anxiety.

From the fifth month of life on small babies recognise almost everything on television that is an intimate part of the world around them.

Heinrichs advises parents against putting small children to sleep in front of the television or placing a baby's pram in what he calls a "television straitjacket."

Heinrichs said: "Small children cannot handle strange things, the kind of things that television would overwhelm them with. Early in life this would make them nervous and anxious."

The question persists: Should children watch television at all? Professor Heinrichs said: "Of course they should. Children totally without television are put at a disadvantage in school. We are today on the threshold of a powerful development in television. Parents should then look more critically than ever before at the requests to watch television their children make" — General-Anzeiger, Bonn.

Soviet play on Chernobyl illustrates new candour

By George Jahn
The Associated Press

VIENNA, Austria — Western theatre-goers are getting a glimpse of Kremlin-style candour in "Sarcophagus," a Soviet journalist's play about the Chernobyl nuclear accident.

The play, in its first Western production at Vienna's Volkstheater, is getting mixed reviews for artistic merit. But Austrian critics and audiences are excited about its relatively open portrayal of Soviet society.

So far in the Soviet Union, "Sarcophagus" has been performed only in a few provincial cities like Krasnoyarsk, in Siberia, or Tiraspol, near the Black Sea. But performances are planned soon in Moscow and Leningrad.

Written by Pravda science editor Valdimir S. Gubarev, the play provides most Westerners with their first glimpse of "glasnost," a policy of openness introduced by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev after he came to power in 1985.

Glasnost has meant a relaxation of some state controls in Soviet society and prompted an increase in freedom of expression, especially in the arts.

"Sarcophagus" is a two-act play documenting the fate of nine people who were at or near the Ukrainian nuclear reactor when it exploded last April 26, and the doctors who treat them.

The setting is a special clinic for radiation sickness in Moscow. The victims' version of how and why the catastrophe happened serves as a condemnation of stagnation, opportunism and corruption among Soviet officials.

After the Volkstheater's opening performance on Sunday, the capacity audience broke into sustained clapping. Part of the applause was for Gubarev, who followed the performance intently from a theatre box.

Theatregoer Franz Katzgraber of Vienna said he was astounded at the play's criticism of the Soviet system.

"I was very surprised that such a play could be written and shown in the Soviet Union," Katzgraber, 60, said.

Asked to compare the audience reaction in Vienna and in the Soviet Union, the 48-year-old Gubarev said both responded enthusiastically.

"Soviet audiences always react well to the truth, to honesty," he

said in an interview. "They react very poorly to lies and fraud."

Gubarev denied that "Sarcophagus" was brought to the West as a Soviet propaganda manoeuvre. He said theatres worldwide have shown interest in performing it and that some of the issues it deals with "are relevant for the whole world."

The Volkstheater production is in German. An English version opens April 16 at the Pit Theatre in London's Barbican Centre, performed by the Royal Shakespeare Company.

Soviet copyright officials in Moscow say negotiations are in progress with U.S. theatres and other European houses, but decline to give details.

Vienna's newspapers have praised the play's critical viewpoint.

"This play could only have been written in the Gorbachev era, because it reveals a system that shows responsibility from one person to the next, so that nobody is responsible in the end," noted the mass-circulation Kronenzeitung newspaper.

Die Presse newspaper commented: "Most interesting are the passages where criticism is expressed, where there is open comment about defects and opportunistic errors in conduct."

The characters reveal criminal negligence by construction crews working to get a bonus for early completion of the reactor complex. The turbine hall was roofed over with inflammable material in the hurry to complete it, says one of them.

The plant director admits that radiation protection suits were never ordered for the plant's firefighters because it was considered "impossible that they would ever be needed."

Challenged by the public prosecutor, the director admits to hushing up the lack of reactor security out of fear for his job. But he also boasts that he will never be taken to court because so many people are responsible.

"Too many people would have to go on trial for this accident," he says. "That would result in a chain reaction and would it be possible to bring that to a halt...?"

Gubarev, who says he was one of the first reporters to reach the scene of Chernobyl catastrophe, denied that his main object was to spotlight errors that Gorbachev wants eradicated.

Want to fire an AK-47? Come to China

By Graham Earnshaw
Reuters

PEKING — Have you ever had a desire to fire an AK-47 automatic rifle, the darling of many around the world? How about a Bazooka or even an anti-aircraft machinegun?

No problem. China's small-arms research institute near Peking has decided to try to snare some tourist dollars by giving foreigners the run of their large and impressive arsenal.

The institute's firing range near the Great Wall of China provides what will be for many people the only chance they are ever likely to get to fire Chinese-made weapons, a hot item at present on the international arms market.

The institute's director, Li Weiru, says he hopes tourist groups heading for the Great Wall, the greatest military fortification ever constructed, will soon be stopping to round out their China experience by firing

off a box of ammunition.

"Foreign tourists say there is not enough to do in Peking, so we decided to open up the firing range to give them some entertainment and to give us some extra income," he told Reuters.

To add a touch of spice to the experience, foreigners have to travel past a sign warning "No foreigners permitted beyond this point" in order to get to the once-secret institute.

Visitors are taken on a tour through the institute's showroom, packed with the instruments of death. All are available for use — at a price.

Li said tourists would be offered a package deal for \$300, including lunch and 600 bullets for a variety of small weapons.

The Chinese version of the ubiquitous Soviet-designed AK-47 automatic rifle, popular with guerrillas the world over, is there, and so is a Chinese copy of the American M-16 rifle.

There is a sleek new light sub-machinegun complete with

silencer, developed at the institute, which the director said was now being issued to units of the Chinese People's Liberation Army.

There are shotguns and sports rifles, anti-aircraft guns and pistols.

There is a 60 mm anti-tank rifle grenade capable of piercing 500 mm armour plating. Li said foreign visitors could fire one at an earth target for only \$150 a time.

For considerably more, you can experience the thrill of firing a rocket grenade at a brick structure and watch it disintegrate before your eyes.

There is a wide range of hand pistols on show, some of them gold-plated and featuring tiny enamelled paintings of birds and bamboo.

For the cultured gun-lover, there is a deluxe model pistol decorated with scenes from the classic Chinese novel "The Dream of the Red Chamber."

To buy it: \$2,700.

Officials at the institute are

proud of their most recent inventions, an anti-hijack pistol using rubber-tipped bullets that can kill a man but cannot puncture the shell of an aircraft, and beside it, a cunning knife that can hold and fire three bullets.

"When you fight with criminals, you pull it out and 'bang,'" said the attendant, smiling.

China's state-owned arms dealer, Norinco, has grown into a major source of foreign exchange for Peking over the past few years and the firing range is also used by the corporation to demonstrate Chinese guns to prospective buyers from around the world.

"We make a few guns at the institute but if you are interested in a bulk order, talk to Norinco," said Li. "They can take orders for hundreds, thousands, any number of guns you want."

But it is not quite sure how many tourists will be interested in paying for a chance to fire off Chinese-made weaponry.

Li said the institute plans to make contact with gun clubs in the United States and Japan to find prospective customers.

Verbal memory preserved in healthy aging

By Malcolm Ritter
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Old age may make it harder to remember where you put your keys, but a study suggests that recall for such facts as names and stories does not decline in healthy and well-educated elderly.

"It is a very optimistic finding," said Dr. Elisabeth Koss of the National Institute on Aging. Koss, who studied memory in 60 healthy and college-educated men ages 25 to 85, found that older men scored as well in tests of verbal memory as the younger ones.

That kind of memory includes recalling names, stores and the previous day's events, comprehending and defining words and speaking eloquently, she told a news conference at the annual meeting of the American Academy of Neurology.

Previous studies had found declines in such abilities as recalling stories and names, but they did not account for effects of disease or educational levels, she said.

Her study did find age-related declines in "visuospatial" memory and performance, which includes factors like where a person put his keys, she said.

The declines were not severe enough to interfere with daily occupational or social activities, said R.P. Friedland, a co-author of the study. He also stressed the declines were fundamentally different from the impediments of Alzheimer's disease or other dementia.

"While the older person may forget where he put his keys...

the person with dementia will be the one who forgets he has keys," Friedland said.

Of the 60 volunteers in the study, 18 were younger than age 34, 16 were between the ages of 36 and 54, 14 were between the ages of 56 and 69, and 12 were 70 or older. None had a psychological or medical condition that might interfere with intellectual functioning, the researchers wrote.

Verbal memory was checked through such tests as telling the person a story and then asking him to repeat it with as much detail as possible, both right away and after about 20 minutes.

In another test, each was told a list of 10 words and asked to repeat it. Most people cannot recall all 10, so the forgotten words are then reviewed, and the person asked again to repeat the entire list. The exercise tests short-term and long-term verbal memory, Koss said.

One visuospatial test included asking each person to arrange a series of pictures in logical order. Koss said her results showed no age-related decline in this ability until age 70.

Another test showed age-related declines that began even with the youngest men in the study, she said. In that exercise, the men were given a list of numbers paired with symbols, then a series of numbers. They had to fill in the corresponding symbol for each number, while being allowed to look back to the reference list.

The test is more one of speed than memory, Koss said.

Koss said she plans to do a memory study of elderly women.

Vienna spends nearly million dollars to renovate WC

By David Lewis
Reuters

VIENNA — Shoppers in the Austrian capital can once again answer calls of nature in turn-of-the-century style.

A 1905 lavatory complex designed by Adolf Loos reopened last week in the Graben, a pedestrian-only street in central Vienna, at a cost of 12 million-schillings (\$940,000).

Aquamarine metalwork in swirling Jugendstil — the Austrian form of art nouveau — surmounts the twin entrances of what claimed to be world's first underground toilet facilities.

Staircases of purple-and-white tiles lead beneath posts labelled *damen* and *herren* (ladies and gents) to a temple of hygiene, shiny with mirrors, marble and brass fittings.

In the *herren*, swing doors with engraved glass separate a handsome range of urinals from a chamber with eight cubicles. Each has a wood-framed cistern, a ceramic bowl with mahogany seat and a washbasin with gold-plated tap (cold only).

Access to a cubicle is granted for 4.75 schillings (40 cents) by Paula Krug, a flame-haired former cabaret artiste who has travelled the world and is now in charge of the most up-market water closets in her native city.

"Oh, how people throw their lives away," Krug sighed, reflecting on her life after unlocking a cabin for a visitor.

The Loos lavatory closed about

five years ago because of trouble with the plumbing of a street-level fountain, but the toilets themselves were also rather run down.

Various city council departments, including that for historic monuments, clubbed together to finance the restoration. Tiles to the old pattern were imported from Italy.

Business has been brisk since the reopening last Thursday, and mayor Helmut Zilk has been among the patrons. Not all visitors descend the stairs out of necessity, however. Many just pop down to admire the architecture and fittings.

Adolf Loos (1870-1933) was one of Austria's most important architects this century, working in the Jugendstil made famous by Josef Hoffmann and painter Gustav Klimt before becoming the leading exponent of "new functionalism."

Vienna's historic monuments department is now hoping to renovate Loos' American Bar (1908), another Jugendstil work not far from the Graben.

"The bar caused a sensation from the moment it opened up and although it has slightly come down in the world, is still undoubtedly one of the showpieces of modern Vienna at the turn of the century," writes art historian Christian Nebehay.

The original front of the American Bar has already been reconstructed and displayed in recent successful Vienna exhibitions here and in Paris and New York.

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Tottenham reaches FA Cup with victory over Watford

LONDON (AP) — Tottenham Hotspur, which jointly holds the record for winning the English FA (Football Association) Cup, steamed into its eighth final Saturday by beating Watford 4-1 in a semifinal at Villa Park.

In the final, at Wembley on May 16, the seven-time winner, which holds the record with Aston Villa, will meet either Coventry City or Second Division Leeds United, who face each other today.

In league action, Everton stretched its lead in the First Division standings by whipping West Ham United 4-0 while defending champion and second placed Liverpool slumped to its fourth consecutive defeat, losing 2-1 at Norwich City.

Tottenham, which has never lost an F.A. Cup final, scored three times in the opening 37 minutes as Watford's third-choice goalkeeper, Gary Plumley, had a nightmare start to his first cup semifinal.

With Tony Cotton and Steve Sherwood sidelined because of injury, Watford manager Graham Taylor had to call on the part-time Plumley, a 30-year-old wine-bar owner and son of the club's chief executive, Eddie Plumley, to deputise.

Plumley fanned Tottenham an 11th minute lead when he fumbled a shot from Clive Allen and Steve Hodge banged home the rebound. Within a minute, a 30-metre drive by Allen was deflected past the goalkeeper into the net for the Tottenham's striker's 45th goal of the season.

Eight minutes before half time, midfielder Paul Allen, the striker's cousin, scored Tottenham's third and Hodge added a fourth in the second half.

Watford's Welsh international, Martin Allen, who is no relation to the two Tottenham players, scored what proved to be no more than a consolation goal for Taylor's team.

The start of the game was held up for 17 minutes because many of the 46,000 crowd was held up by traffic congestion on the approach to the neutral venue in the central English city of Birmingham.

Everton scored all its goals against West Ham in the first half.

New signing Wayne Clarke began the scoring with his second goal for the club and further strikes came from Peter Reid.

With special helicopter pad to help fly injured drivers out quickly. It also boasts a medical centre equipped with a special shower to treat patients with serious burns, the most common hazard at Formula One races.

Chijsma said Honda had been particularly concerned with general safety and hazard countermeasures because of Japan's dismal memories of the 1976 and 1977 Grand Prix at Fuji.

The 1976 race, the last one that season, was marred by torrential rain. Niki Lauda, leading on points in the Drivers' Championship, pulled out of the race after the second lap and said it was too dangerous.

As a result, Britain's James Hunt, who finished third, came from behind to capture the title.

The following year, Japan's organisational failings were unhappily shown again in the management of the race by the private firm in charge of administering the Fuji speedway.

Two spectators were killed when Gilles Villeneuve's Ferrari crashed into their group in an off-limits area close to the track.

Other incidents, such as the abrupt cancellation of the first day's timed practice sessions, the Japanese government's banning of a South African driver, Lauda's boycott of the race and the refusal of Hunt, the winner again, to perform the ritual champagne-popping on the rostrum further marred the event.

So Suzuka has much to live down as it strives for recognition. But its successful hosting of the opening motorcycling Grand Prix last month augured well and it will continue to host the Japanese Formula One race until 1991.

The circuit, financially independent due to a large Honda-run motorsports amusement park, is located near the central Japanese city of Nagoya, midway between Tokyo and Osaka.

A huge crowd is likely to be attracted in November if Honda's engines prove successful again particularly as they have also been adopted this season by Lotus who switched to Honda this year after Renault's withdrawal.

Honda has provided Williams and Lotus with new V6 1.5 litre twin-turbo engines, designed to strike an optimum between power output and fuel efficiency.

For Honda, Formula One is an old playground. Between 1964 and 1968, its white cars, emblazoned with the rising sun, raced all over the world, winning two races in five years. It finally gave up because of the cost and did not re-enter Formula One with its engines until 1983.

McEnroe said he felt the three hour 22 minute match was one of his best performance of the year. "I would say it's close to the best I've played. It was an important match for me to win. Even though there were times when my fuse was short, I felt like I concentrated the whole way," the fiery American said.

McEnroe saved his best for last, playing near-flawless tennis in a fourth set that saw him run off 13 consecutive points over four games. He broke the Swede in the seventh game and dropped only one point in his five service games of the set.

Both players controlled their service games in the first set. McEnroe, ranked seventh in the world, scored eight aces while the third-ranked Edberg dropped only six points on his serve as the two went into a tiebreaker.

McEnroe had more problems with umpire Gerry Armstrong in the first set than with Edberg in the tiebreaker, which he won 7-4.

While McEnroe was arguing about the removal of a linesman, Armstrong gave him a warning for delay of game. McEnroe responded by motioning for noise from the crowd, who delayed the match for a loud minute until Armstrong quieted the 14,877 spectators.

Edberg held off a break point in the first game of the second set and broke McEnroe for the first time to go up 3-1. McEnroe broke back in the next game with a forehand return winner off an Edberg second serve. Both players then held their serves easily to force a second tiebreaker, which Edberg won 7-5.

McEnroe continued his dispute with umpire Armstrong in the third set, asking him at one point, "are you trying to see if you can make a mockery out of a tennis match?"

In the set, neither player was able to reach break point on the other's serve. Edberg running off 19 consecutive points on his serve. The match went to its third tiebreaker, which McEnroe won 7-3 as Edberg hit his first double-fault of the match on set point.

McEnroe's anger with the officiating hit a peak in the first game of the fourth set when he stopped play to berate the Men's International Professional Tennis Council (MIPTC) supervisor seated court-side.

Edberg said the American's outbursts did not unnerve him but said the umpire should have strictly enforced the rules. "I tried to stay calm. I didn't want to get involved. It's the umpire's job to control the match," the Swede said.

"He (McEnroe) even walked off the court once. It gets to be too much at times. There are always going to be bad calls, but he complains about everything," Edberg added.

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Japan warns of retaliation against U.S. trade sanctions

TOKYO (R) — Japan warned the United States Saturday that it might take retaliation measures if the United States imposed planned trade sanctions on April 17, a senior government official said.

Mr. Shinji Fukukawa, vice minister of the International Trade and Industry Ministry (MITI), said in a statement Japan would consider measures under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and other actions if the United States imposed 100 per cent tariffs on some Japanese exports next week.

However, Mr. Fukukawa said Japan was ready to continue trade talks with the United States despite Tokyo's failure to convince the Reagan administration to call off the threatened tariffs during two days of emergency talks ended in Washington Friday.

Last month, President Reagan announced the sanctions in retaliation for what he called Japan's failure to honour a July, 1986, agreement to stop dumping computer microchips in markets outside the United States and to open its home market to American goods.

Mr. Fukukawa expressed deep regret that the United States had not listened to Japan's explanation of its efforts to live up to the pact and said America had not given any detailed explanation of why it planned to impose the tariffs.

The U.S. trade representative's office said in a statement Friday that "the consultations did not in

our view produce any basis to call into question the accuracy of the data concerning market access or third country dumping upon which the president's decision of March 27 was founded."

In London, a British minister said Saturday he had given the Japanese government a clear warning of sanctions against Japanese companies if Tokyo did not allow more access to its internal markets and the threat was clearly understood.

Corporate Affairs Minister Michael Howard said on his return from a visit to Japan he thought the Japanese were beginning to appreciate the need to be fair and open about access to their own markets.

At an airport news conference Mr. Howard denied opposition allegations that his trip had been a failure because he had returned empty-handed.

"I did what I set out to do. I was sent to deliver a clear message to the Japanese government and I delivered it very clearly and it has been clearly understood."

Mr. Howard said that under the Financial Services Act the government had considerable flexibility in taking sanctions against Japanese companies and finance houses operating in Britain.

"It is not simply a question of withdrawing or refusing operating licences. We can ban firms from certain countries from carrying out certain kinds of business, while allowing them to carry out other kinds," he said.

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

AMMAN (J.T.) — The following table summarises trading activities at the Amman Financial Market during the week starting Saturday, April 4, '87 and ending Wednesday, April 8, '87. (Figures in Jordanian dinars).

Name of company	Number of shares	Volume of trade	Opening price	Closing price	Par value
Banking and financial institutions					
Industrial Development Bank	21550	26938	1.250	1.250	1.000
Petra Bank	9900	23948	2.300	2.400	1.000
Jordan Islamic Bank	4725	9908	2.070	2.080	1.000
Jordan Kuwait Bank	7853	13251	1.700	1.680	1.000
Jordan Gulf Bank	6442	8424	1.310	1.300	1.000
Housing Bank	3400	5601	1.620	1.650	1.000
Arab Jordan Investment Bank	16312	35072	2.150	2.150	1.000
Arab Finance Corporation (Jordan)	30	855	29.000	28.500	5.000
Bank of Jordan	2981	53884	18.150	18.600	5.000
Arab Bank	720	88933	123.900	123.500	10.000
Jordan National Bank	441200	114730	2.600	2.600	1.000
Jordan Finance House for Development	86625	71811	0.810	0.840	1.000
Islamic Investment House	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Investment and Finance Corporation	22397	26468	1.710	1.730	1.000
Finance and Credit Corporation	152795	132058	0.890	0.840	1.000
National Financial Investments	10350	14700	1.470	1.450	1.000
National Portfolio Securities	35018	26656	0.750	0.790	1.000
Jordan Securities Corporation	14957	13611	0.910	0.910	1.000
Real Estate Corporation (Jordan)	17454	24363	1.410	1.370	1.000
Al Mashrek Exchange	—	—	—	—	10.000
Insurance and reinsurance					
Jordan French Insurance	1961	9329	4.600	4.800	1.000
REFCO Life Insurance	233	302	0.870	0.870	1.000
Jordan Insurance	3000	34500	11.250	11.500	1.000
Arab Life and Accident Insurance	4361	3734	0.850	0.870	1.000
Yarmouk Insurance and Reinsurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Holy Land Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Philadelphia Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab Union International Insurance	500	450	0.920	0.900	1.000
Jordan Insurance	1200	1643	1.350	1.370	1.000
Jordan-Gulf Insurance	2250	1770	0.790	0.760	1.000
Universal Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
General Insurance	205	318	1.550	1.530	1.000
Jordan Eagle Insurance	—	—	—	—	10.000
Middle East Insurance	—	—	—	—	10.000
Al-Jadhar Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
National Ahliya Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Services and industries					
Darco for Housing and Investment	53238	32052	0.620	0.600	1.000
Real Estate Investment (Aqarco)	2600	1160	0.480	0.430	1.000
Jordan Leasing Corporation	1473	1061	0.720	0.720	1.000
Petra Enterprises and Leasing Equipments	51350	8988	0.680	0.670	1.000
Equipment Leasing & Maintenance/Tajecro	35150	15779	0.970	0.950	1.000
Jordanian Electric Power	12531	19186	1.520	1.540	1.000
Irbid District Electricity	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab International Hotels	83350	46034	0.530	0.580	1.000
Hotels and Tourism	—	—	—	—	1.000
Garage Owners Federation Office	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan National Shipping Lines	8250	7526	0.910	0.910	1.000
Dar Al Shaab Press, Printing and Publishing	85000	45975	0.520	0.550	1.000
Jordan Dairy	51275	64112	1.260	1.250	1.000
Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing	61784	123617	2.090	1.970	1.000
Intermediate Petrochemical Industries	552739	645500	1.090	1.070	1.000
Jordan Phosphate Mines	4047	9591	2.360	2.370	1.000
Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural (Intag)	9329	13731	1.500	1.470	1.000
Arab Chemical Detergent Industries	2034	10639	5.500	5.150	1.000
Aladdin Industries	113250	121643	1.070	1.060	1.000
Arab Aluminium Manufacturing	524507	103408	1.890	1.970	1.000
Jordan Worsteds Mills	16230	17001	1.060	1.050	1.000
Jordan Ceramics	8883	10197	1.200	1.100	1.000
Chemical Industries	8684	4682	0.540	0.530	1.000
Jordan Industries and Match (JIMCO)	2271	2928	1.360	1.250	1.000
Dar Al Dawa' for Development and Investment	251915	631355	2.450	2.550	1.000
National Steel Industries	5000	4410	0.880	0.880	1.000
Universal Chemical Industries	8600	15045	1.750	1.750	1.000
General Mining	6839	48633	7.100	7.100	5.000
Jordan Petroleum Refinery	27200	9221	0.350	0.340	1.000
Jordan Lime & Brick	8280	5877	0.700	0.710	1.000
National Industries	2200	878	0.400	0.400	1.000
Arab Paper Covering and Trading	4363	4198	0.970	0.970	1.000
Jordan Wooden Industries (JWICO)	—	—	—	—	1.000
Livestock and Poultry	24627	30418	1.240	1.180	1.000
Jordan Pipes Manufacturing	1100	2530	2.300	2.300	1.000
Rafia Industrial for Plastic Bags	38500	19996	0.540	0.510	1.000
Jordan Paper and Cardboard	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Rockwool Industries	—	—	—	—	1.000
Trans-Jordan Minerals Research	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Himeh Mineral	—	—	—	—	1.000
Orient Dry Batteries Factory	—	—	—	—	1.000
Woolen Industries	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Tanning	4008	7392	1.820	1.850	1.000
Jordan Printing and Packaging	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Tobacco and Cigarette	2226	24041	10.600	10.800	5.000
Jordan Brewery	—	—	—	—	1.000
Mas Industries	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab Center for Pharmaceuticals & Chemicals	—	—	—	—	1.000
National Cable & Wire Manufacturing	135839	135724	1.010	0.980	1.000
Jordan Spinning & Weaving	268798	221658	0.760	0.880	1.000
Jordan Industrial Investment Corporation	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Sulpho Chemicals	840199	2729075	3.690	3.700	1.000
Jordan Cement Factories	172597	182497	1.060	1.040	1.000
Jordan Glass Industries	77562	90436	1.000	1.000	1.000
Grand total	4,039,177	7,141,351			

Conable sees need for new creative financing schemes

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — New creative financing schemes are needed for developing nations because commercial banks have not responded to an 18-month-old plan for more loans, leaders of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) say.

"Thus far, response from commercial banks, export credit agencies and other sources of finance has been disappointing," World Bank President Barber Conable said Friday.

Mr. Conable said that failure of commercial banks to respond to appeals for more loans, particularly for Latin America, would force a restructuring of the aid programme.

"The (World) Bank will inevitably take on greater risks" as a result, he said.

"The IMF's Interim Committee, which sets policy for the 151-nation international lending organisation, also cited a lack of progress for the Third World debt strategy launched in October 1985. The committee blamed commercial banks for being reluctant to provide funds."

The plan, authored by U.S. Treasury Secretary James Baker, called for at least \$20 billion in new bank loans for developing nations that undertook major economic reforms. Another \$9 billion was to come from international lending organisations.

The IMF statement cited long delays in putting together loan packages, like the one negotiated last fall for Mexico. It urged banks to explore "a wider range of procedures and financing techniques."

It listed several options, including bank acceptance of local currencies instead of dollars to repay a debt, funds that would in turn be used to purchase "equity" in the debtor nation.

Mr. Baker, in his fourth address to the IMF-World Bank session, on Friday endorsed the call for creative financing proposals "to help to keep the doors of all banks open to international finance."

Mr. Baker also said the United States was ready to take an urgent look at easing the debt burden of the poorest countries.

Earlier Friday, the IMF's Interim Committee urged the rich governments of the world to make direct loans to the poorest of the poor countries, particularly those south of the Sahara in Africa, under more flexible terms.

"It is crucial for these countries to implement major reforms which, to be fully effective, will need to be accompanied by additional financing on concessional terms," said the IMF statement.

The spring IMF-World Bank meeting ended as a currency-stabilisation agreement reached earlier in the week by officials of the seven major economic democracies — the United States, Japan, West Germany, Britain, France, Canada and Italy — appeared to have backfired on exchange markets.

The dollar opened sharply lower in Europe while in Tokyo it

continued to hit new lows, closing for the day at 142.50 yen to one dollar.

Traders blamed the slide on widespread market disappointment that high-level meetings held in conjunction with the IMF sessions had not resulted in stronger action to prop up the dollar.

But top finance officials — including Mr. Baker — renewed their support for the plan. Some suggested markets were over-reacting.

Asked Friday about the dollar's fresh plunge, Dutch Finance Minister H. Onno Ruding, chairman of the Interim Committee, said the accord, designed to brake the dollar's fall, has wide support from key IMF members, including those from nations outside the seven which signed the accord.

"The other members were satisfied that this was a contribution to further exchange rate stability," he said.

French Finance Minister Edouard Balladur said that, in a system of floating exchange rates, day-to-day fluctuations were not that important.

Zimbabwe's Finance Minister Bernard Chidzero suggested Friday that governments convert their loans to poor countries into grants.

Mr. Chidzero said "Canada is changing loans not yet paid out into grants, and will in the future make only grants to Third World countries."

Mr. Chidzero heads the Joint Development Committee, which links the bank and the fund and includes 22 cabinet-level representatives from both rich and poor countries. His government in Zimbabwe is headed by Prime Minister Robert Mugabe, a Marxist.

The World Bank estimates that this year the debt of Third World countries to official sources such as the World Bank will reach \$335 billion out of a total debt of \$1.08 trillion.

Committee criticises agricultural policies

The Joint Development Committee also said Friday that protectionist agricultural policies of industrial countries were a major cause of depressed global commodity prices.

The committee said an improved environment for commodities was extremely important to the long-term viability of developing countries.

Poorer countries, which rely primarily on raw commodity sales to industrial nations to pay their debts, have been highly critical of protectionist agricultural policies in the United States, Western Europe and Japan.

"Ministers identified protectionist agricultural policies as a

major cause of distortions including depressed commodity prices on world markets, of surplus production and of budgetary drain," a communiqué said.

Regarding loan repayments, meanwhile, seven countries are more than half a year behind in repaying a total of nearly \$1.2 billion owed the IMF and the fund's new chief described the situation Friday as unacceptable.

"No financial institution likes arrears, but the fund is a very special institution," said IMF Managing Director Michel Camdessus.

He said the fund is financed by the treasuries of all member governments as the last reserve for the currencies of the world.

For a country to run up IMF arrears "is self-defeating, as you are drying up a possible source of financing for yourself," Mr. Camdessus told a news conference. It is also "very serious for the rest of the membership, since not only the rich countries, but all members have to pay the cost."

The former governor of the Bank of France succeeded last fall Frenchman Jacques De Larosiere in January as head of the 151-nation IMF.

Mr. Camdessus said the IMF is discussing the debts "in a very positive fashion" with all seven countries behind in their payments. He did not name the countries.

An IMF official source, who spoke on condition of not being identified, said they are Vietnam, Guyana, Liberia, Sudan and Peru, and two other Third World nations.

"We must adopt a very positive attitude to a country incurring arrears because if they do so it means they are in an extremely difficult situation," Mr. Camdessus said. "Of course, we will not automatically invent money, but we have to assist them in exceptional and imaginative ways to put their houses in order."

Airline official ends visit

AMMAN (J.T.) — Mr. G. Meirhofer, Lufthansa's newly elected regional director for the Middle East, left Amman Saturday after a few days' visit to Jordan during which he familiarised himself with the airline's operation in Jordan.

During his stay here, Mr. Meirhofer also attended the German Spring Festival, which is a yearly event organised by Lufthansa. This year's festival, which was held at the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel, was attended by a number of Jordanian officials and businessmen and the German ambassador in Amman.

Mr. Meirhofer's appointment to his new post takes place as a result of major managerial reorganisation changes that have been made by the German airline recently.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, APRIL 12, 1987

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A day when you need to be very thoughtful and cautious. Other persons are looking for reasons to make changes in your relationship.

Show your most cooperative side.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Situations arise that will show you exactly how to improve your relationship with an outside partner.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Get busy and make your environment more charming. Avoid one who likes to waste your time.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Delays may arise in the plans you have made for pleasure with a good friend, but later things iron out.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Listen carefully to whatever your family is saying. If any guests come over, avoid arguments with them.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) It's a good day to visit with friends. Handle correspondence that requires thought and tact for the right results.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) It's a fine day to study your property and other assets. Do something to improve them. Keep busy.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Study your personal desires and find the right ways and means to gain them. Contact dynamic persons for help.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) This Sunday you can get into intimate matters that you have temporarily put aside. Handle them nicely.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Don't rely on the assistance of friends today except for one spunky individual who gives you all you need.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Rely more on your own intelligence in handling worldly affairs. Do something of a civic nature.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Research those fine ideas before putting them into operation. Show your emotional mate your true devotion.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Follow your hunches instead of relying on those of others who do not understand the true situation.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he, or she, will want to accomplish important things in life and can do so provided you teach the art of harmonious communication. One who is innately sweet and desires to be friendly with everyone. There is a fine mind here with plenty of energy.

THE Daily Crossword

by Arthur W. Palmer

ACROSS

- Judge's bench
- Disney character
- Mild oath
- Celebes on
- Les Bains
- Exterior City
- Master of none
- Star
- Augustus
- Stuart engine
- man
- Madame
- Bovary
- Fort
- Eden occupant
- In the dumps
- Seed cover
- Improper
- Kimono sash
- City north of St.
- Augustine
- Inquire
- One of the
- Shews
- Wharf
- Attention getter
- Go under
- Bee conclave
- Loss strength
- Fruit quaffs
- Last word
- Hardy girl
- City in Algeria
- Field unit
- Desert Fox
- Whimper
- Orient
- Defendant in
- Reina
- Exeter and
- Anderson: abbr.
- Sp. miss

DOWN

- California
- Collections of
- sayings
- Night: comb.
- form
- Stage dance
- is appropriate
- Shoe, to Poppye
- Extract
- Dance in Dijon
- Bank abbr.
- Play
- Took a bus
- 12 Last word
- 13 Hardy girl
- 14 City in Algeria
- 15 Desert Fox
- 16 Rickenbacker
- 17 Mangle
- 18 Indian prince
- 19 Equine
- 20 Richard to
- 21 friends
- 22 Blacksmith
- 23 Bulgaria's
- 24 capital
- 25 More
- 26 competent
- 27 Leg
- 28 To the point
- 29 that
- 30 Hunting
- 31 expedition
- 32 Slightly open
- 33 Aromatic
- 34 spice
- 35 Warm concern
- 36 letters
- 37 Light color
- 38 Brazil's
- 39 neighbor
- 40 Lep dogs
- 41 47 in the lead
- 42 Slightly open
- 43 Aromatic
- 44 spice
- 45 Warm concern
- 46 letters
- 47 N.Y. stadium
- 48 Armadillo
- 49 Map part
- 50 M. Kell
- 51 One Birdsong's
- 52 org.
- 53 Warm concern
- 54 letters

Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff

Philippines rebels issue death warning against U.S. officials

MANILA (Agencies) — Leaders of a communist assassination squad said Saturday they had chosen several U.S. military officers and diplomats as "potential targets" for helping the Philippine government in its anti-insurgency war.

At a news conference, two guerrilla leaders said the rebel squads, popularly called "Sparrows," had killed more than 30 Filipino soldiers, policemen and informers in three years of operation in Manila. Sixteen of the "hits" were made since February this year, they said.

The rebels named only one American — retired U.S. army Major-General John Singlaub — as among their possible targets. They said no final decision had been made on Gen. Singlaub and the other Americans.

Gen. Singlaub, an anti-insurgency expert who frequently visits Manila ostensibly on treat-

sure-hunting expeditions, is reputed to have helped several Central American governments fight local insurgents. He has denied playing any such role in the Philippines.

The rebels also named President Corason Aquino's local government secretary, Jaime Ferrer, as on their "prospective" death list.

Mr. Ferrer is a strong supporter of the military in the provinces to fight the communist New People's Army (NPA).

Rebel death squads are called "Sparrows" because of the swiftness with which they strike at their victims.

"We issue a strong warning to ... all U.S. military and civilian advisers, officers and men who engage in the planning, design, funding or implementation of counter-insurgency programmes," a written NPA statement said.

The two guerrilla leaders, who gave their names as Sergio Romero and Emil Trinidad, asked reporters not to describe the place where the news conference was held or their physical appearance, other than the fact that they wore blue jeans.

The two identified themselves as officers of the NPA command in Manila.

It was the first time any rebel leader directing Sparrow actions in the capital had appeared before the media. They said they wanted to refute military claims that Sparrows indiscriminately killed people and used hoodlums or drug addicts in their missions.

Soviets begin limited troop pullout from Mongolia

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union said Saturday it had started the withdrawal of one motorised infantry division and several other troops units from Mongolia in what foreign analysts said was an overt move to China.

A Defence Ministry announcement, reported by the official news agency TASS, said the partial troop withdrawal had begun "in accordance with a decision by the Soviet leadership and on arrangement with the government of Mongolia."

The announcement did not say when the pullout started.

Foreign analysts in Moscow said the move, announced Jan. 15, was a fresh conciliation bid to Peking. China has expressed unease over the presence of Soviet troops in Mongolia, which lies on its border.

Western military experts said the pullout would probably involve 8,000 to 11,000 men from an estimated 75,000-strong contingent in Mongolia since 1966.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennady Gerasimov, announcing the partial withdrawal last January, said it was in line with a Kremlin policy on Asia outlined by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in a speech last July.

Mr. Gorbachev said in the speech in the Far Eastern port of Vladivostok that Moscow was considering the possibility of withdrawing a "substantial part" of its forces from Mongolia, a Soviet ally since 1921.

A TASS report from Mongolia immediately after the January decision welcomed it as an "act of goodwill which will strengthen mutual understanding and trust and good-neighbourly ties between Asian peoples."

Peking cites the Soviet troop presence in Afghanistan, where it intervened militarily in December, 1979, as a third obstacle to improved ties.

Mr. Gorbachev also announced a partial withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan, where Moscow supports the communist government of Afghan leader Najib in the eight-year-old war with rebels, in his speech in Vladivostok.

Peking has responded cautiously to Moscow's decision to partially pull out of Mongolia.

Peking has cited the presence of Soviet troops in Mongolia, sent in at the request of the Mongolian government in early 1966, as one of the obstacles to warmer relations between China and the Soviet Union.

But foreign analysts said China was more concerned about an estimated one million Soviet troops on the two countries' direct border.

Peking has also said it is unwilling to advance beyond recent improvements in Sino-Soviet economic relations as long as Moscow continues to back the role of Vietnam in Kampuchea.

Opposition to fight Pretoria's ban on protests

CAPE TOWN (R) — South Africa on Saturday outlawed protests over the detention of thousands of people under security laws and a leading opposition politician vowed to ignore the ban.

Police chief General Johan Coetzee issued an order barring any form of protest or meeting to protest against detentions or to call for the release of detainees or to honour them in any way.

Veteran anti-apartheid campaigner Helen Suzman told Reuters she would ignore the ban.

"I have been against detention without trial since it was first introduced in South Africa in 1963. I have no intention of diverging from that now. I'm against it on principle. It is a total abrogation of the rule of law," she said in a telephone interview from Johannesburg.

Ms. Suzman, the law and order spokesman for the Progressive Federal Party (PFP), which has protested against detentions in its campaigning for a whites-only general election set for May 6, said: "I cannot allow it (the new

ban) to affect my general election campaigning."

She said the PFP hoped to challenge the validity of the new regulations through the courts, which have overturned some of the sweeping censorship regulations imposed since the government declared emergency rule last June.

Emergency rule was imposed to quell a revolt against apartheid race segregation and demands for black majority rule.

Massive protest violence had erupted throughout South Africa in townships zoned for blacks, with battles between security forces and township people and between black radicals and those they accused of collaborating with the white authorities.

More than 13,000 people, including children aged 11 or younger, have been named by the government as detained for over a month since the emergency began. Civil rights groups say the figure ignores thousands held for shorter periods or under regular security laws.

Lawyers were on Saturday urgently studying the implications of the latest ban, which tightens existing curbs on outright calls for the release of people detained under the emergency and on public allegations about how people are treated in detention.

Wearing a tee-shirt or displaying a car bumper sticker protesting against detentions is now illegal under the order.

Lawyers told Reuters that one clause in the new order, outlawing any public act in solidarity with detainees, might rule out church services to pray for their welfare.

The Detainees' Parents Support Committee (DPSC), set up in 1981 to monitor detentions and counsel detainees' families, said the new law was "a head-on attack on the DPSC and on the reason for our existence."

A DPSC spokesman told Reuters in Johannesburg: "It phases out any public call we make and effectively outlaws any political support for detainees."

Rebels attack soldiers as Sri Lankan truce begins

COLOMBO (R) — Sri Lankan rebels on Saturday attacked a group of soldiers soon after the military started a unilateral ceasefire in its four-year war against Tamil separatists, the government said.

A spokesman told Reuters rebels fired on the soldiers as they were clearing undergrowth around a camp at Kurumbasetty in the Jaffna peninsula.

One soldier was slightly injured in the attack 45 minutes after the ceasefire began at noon. He was flown to hospital in Colombo.

The spokesman said officials were trying to contact the rebels in Jaffna to discuss the ceasefire, which was designed to enable the majority Sinhalese and minority

Tamil people to celebrate their new year peacefully on Monday.

He also said soldiers would continue to go out on patrol during the ceasefire.

The ceasefire, effective until April 20, is the third since July 1983 when anti-Tamil riots engulfed the island.

A three-month truce from July 1985 ended with each side blaming the other for violations. Last year's Christmas Day ceasefire ended the same way.

The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, spearheading the rebellion against the Sinhalese-dominated government, said it had not yet decided whether to observe the truce.

The Jaffna-based Tamil-lan-

guage newspaper Uthayan quoted a Tigers' spokesman as saying the ceasefire was a mere show to impress other countries.

The ceasefire was one of several measures announced on Friday by National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali to pave the way for a peaceful solution to the ethnic conflict, which has claimed more than 5,000 lives in the past four years.

Mr. Athulathmudali said that if the ceasefire held, the government would restore telephone links with Jaffna and lift a fuel rationing scheme imposed there.

The government would also consider resuming train services if adequate security could be provided, he said.

Seoul house-arrest order triggers clash

SEOUL (R) — A hundred South Korean members of parliament and dissidents clashed Saturday with police guarding the home of top opposition figure Kim Dae-Jung, witnesses quoted by Reuters said.

Mr. Kim was placed under house arrest Friday night to prevent him from participating in the affairs of a new opposition political party, police said.

The state-run Korea Broadcasting System quoted police as saying the house-arrest order would continue until Mr. Kim openly pledged he would not take part in politics.

Fellow dissident leader Kim Young-Sam, flanked by about 20 members of parliament, tried to break through the police cordon around Kim Dae-Jung's home.

The witnesses said the protesters were pushed back by police armed with riot shields.

The protesters, who demanded

the immediate lifting of the house-arrest order, then moved into nearby high-rise buildings from where they were able to wave to Kim Dae-Jung, who was in his back yard.

The two Kims announced on Wednesday that they would set up a new party as an alternative to the main opposition New Korea Democratic Party.

The government said the new party was an attempt to hinder constitutional reforms and was established to satisfy the Kims' own political ambitions.

Kim Dae-Jung, who has been placed under house arrest on many occasions since he returned from two years of exile in the United States in 1985, told reporters the government had no right to confine him to his home.

He said he believes President Chun Doo-Hwan will hand-pick his successor under the present electoral college system instead

of pursuing constitutional reform.

South Korea's rival political groups have been locked since early last year over what form of government South Korea should adopt after Mr. Chun's seven-year term ends next February.

Mr. Kim warned that the expected change in the ruling Democratic Justice Party's (DJP) strategy would face severe resistance, saying most people support a constitutional change in favour of direct election of the president.

"I think they will stick to the present constitution and, actually, that has been their ulterior intention," Mr. Kim told several foreign reporters at his house.

Virtually all of South Korea's government-guided newspapers, quoting "reliable sources," said the DJP probably would announce next week that it would freeze debate on a new constitution until after next year's Seoul Olympics.

U.S.: Unearthed paper is not secret nuclear pact with Japan

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States has said a document unearthed by Japanese communists, though a copy of a genuine U.S. government cable, did not refer to a secret pact allowing U.S. nuclear weapons into Japan.

"Contrary to what has been asserted, the cable does not indicate there is a secret agreement allowing the introduction of nuclear weapons into Japan," State Department spokesman Charles Redman told reporters Friday.

Japanese communists found the 1966 telegram in the U.S. Library of Congress in Washington and interpreted its reference to "confidential arrangements" as meaning a secret pact allowing the United States to bring nuclear arms into Japan.

Redman said the U.S. government had confirmed the Japanese had found "a copy of an authentic document," but that it referred to a Soviet arms proposal, not to a secret U.S.-Japanese nuclear arms pact.

"Imprecise drafting" of a cable from the State Department to the U.S. embassy in Tokyo was responsible for the misunderstanding, Redman said.

The reference to a confidential 1960 agreement which affords the U.S. the right to seek

Japanese government consent to the introduction of nuclear weapons into Japan obviously refers to the 1960 treaty of mutual cooperation and security," he said.

The Japanese government has always made plain that any such request under that agreement would be turned down.

"The references to confidential arrangements 'and to the confidential 1960 agreement' are obviously to the same thing—the 1960 treaty arrangements," Redman said.

He said the confusion had arisen because the cable in question concerned arms proposals by then-Soviet leader Alexei Kosygin.

"As the imprecise drafting of the cable indicates, the immediate focus of the cable was the Kosygin proposal, not U.S.-Japan security relations."

"It was not intended as an authoritative statement of U.S. defence policy toward Japan, nor can it be considered as such," he said.

Washington, as a global policy, refused to confirm or deny whether its ships or planes carry nuclear arms, including those visiting Japan.

Pope calls for defence of labour rights

BUENOS AIRES (R) — Pope John Paul II has made an impassioned defence of workers' rights, saying their dignity was undermined by economic schemes that sacrificed job security for other less human benefits.

"Let's call a stop to the situation in which the right to work is subjected to transitory economic and financial circumstances, which do not take into account full employment as a main objective of all social organisation," the Pope said.

Human values are damaged when socio-economic activity is focused solely on profit, the Pope said to thunderous applause from a huge crowd of workers, including Argentina's largely opposition labour leaders.

Defending worker's rights means more than seeking short-term goals, such as better wages and shorter working hours, Pope John Paul said. He added that workers should not allow union activity to get bogged down in political clashes.

The crowd, some carrying banners with pictures of the late President Juan Peron, who remains a hero among large sectors of the Argentine working classes, packed a large wholesale market on the outskirts of Buenos Aires where the Pope spoke on "the world of labour."

More than 13,000 policemen were deployed to provide security for the pontiff.

President Raul Alfonsín's government declared the day a holiday in the capital and Buenos Aires province where 65 per cent of the nation's industry is located so that workers could attend the meeting.

The opposition Peronist labour movement requested the holiday, saying it would give workers an opportunity to receive comfort from the Pope for the economic hardships resulting from Argentina's \$50-billion foreign debt.

The General Labour Confederation, the nation's main umbrella labour group, said living conditions have deteriorated as a result of the "economic policies laid out by impious foreign creditors."

The Pope, apparently recovered from a gruelling three-day visit to eight interior cities, earlier started the fifth day of a seven-day visit to Argentina with a mass that was attended by more than 40,000 people at a soccer stadium.

Court reinstates surrogate mother's visitation right

TRENTON, New Jersey (Agencies) — Surrogate mother Mary Beth Whitehead has regained the right to visit the baby she bore for a childless couple pending an appeal against the landmark ruling that stripped her of all parental rights.

The New Jersey supreme court overturned on Friday two lower court rulings that barred Mrs. Whitehead from ever seeing the child again.

She will now be allowed to visit the girl, known as Baby M, for two hours every week while the court hears her appeal against the decision giving custody of the year-old child to the biological father, William Stern, and his wife Elizabeth.

An elated Whitehead told journalists Friday night: "It's reinstated, and I'm very, very happy. As far as I'm concerned, she's coming home."

The lawyer for the Sterns, who won permanent custody of the baby, expressed surprise but said Friday's ruling would have no bearing on the main case.

Mrs. Whitehead refused to give up the child after birth, rejecting the \$10,000 surrogate parentage contract she had signed with the Sterns.

On March 31, superior court Judge Harvey Sorkow ruled that the contract was valid and granted custody of the child to William Stern, while barring Mrs. Whitehead from all parental

rights. Both actions were upheld by an appellate division panel last week.

However, the supreme court said Mrs. Whitehead could visit the baby she calls Sara once a week for two hours pending its decision. Arguments are not due to be heard until Sept. 14.

The decision followed a conference call with attorneys in the case. The public was not allowed to hear the conversation.

In court papers, Mrs. Whitehead's attorney had argued for a resumption of visitation on the grounds that he would win his appeal and that continuing the separation of mother and child would cause "irreparable harm" to the girl.

Probe into arms deal pay-off sparks new row in New Delhi

NEW DELHI (R) — India's defence minister, who lost the finance portfolio after campaigning against tax evasion, may lose his new post for investigating an arms-deal pay-off that took place when Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi himself held the defence job.

Prominent members of Mr. Gandhi's Congress (I) Party said they had urged Mr. Gandhi to drop Vishwanath Pratap Singh after the defence minister set up an inquiry into an arms purchase from abroad for which an agent received a \$23-million-commission. The foreign arms-maker has not been named.

Members of Congress (I) who met the prime minister Friday night said Saturday the arms deal inquiry seemed like an attempt to embarrass Mr. Gandhi, who held the defence portfolio himself until naming Mr. Singh to the post in January.

Members of parliament said in a stormy parliamentary debate on Friday that it was unusual for the defence ministry to publicise its investigations and questioned its "motive for doing so."

The uproar followed weeks of speculation in parliament and the press about tension between Mr. Gandhi and Mr. Singh.

Mr. Singh was moved to defence from the Finance Ministry where he had launched a controversial crackdown on corruption, tax evasion and currency

COLUMN

AIDS deaths almost one a day in U.K.

LONDON (AP) — Twenty-eight people died of AIDS in March, bringing the death rate from the disease in Britain to almost one a day, the government said Friday. The Department of Health said 405 people had now died of the disease since Britain began keeping records on AIDS in 1982. The department's latest figures show that 5,571 people have had positive AIDS tests, which means they have been exposed to the virus. The government estimates there are between 30,000 and 40,000 AIDS carriers in Britain, and says it expects 4,000 people will have died from the disease by 1990.

Illicit drug trade estimated at \$300b

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The illicit drug trade is an estimated \$300-billion-a-year industry that caters to tens of millions of addicts, the head of an upcoming U.N. conference to help combat trafficking said Friday. Under-Secretary General William Buffum said: "It is a tough problem, no doubt about it, and we have been trying to deal with it with very limited resources." Buffum, who is planning the conference that opens in Vienna on June 17, told reporters a principal goal would be to promote substitute crops and economic aid for farmers who now grow opiate crops such as poppy and coca. Many Third World countries felt their security was so seriously threatened by "drug barons" and their operations in agriculture that, for the first time, they were ready to mount counter efforts, Buffum said. The international conference would propose financing for non-drug crops and rural industries and socio-economic development with more and better schools and hospitals, he said. The conference is to be held at ministerial level. President Reagan's wife Nancy and popular U.S. television entertainer Bill Cosby have agreed to record public service advertisements for the United Nations as advance promotion.

German prisoners denied union rights

HAMBURG (R) — West German prisoners are not entitled to form trade unions, a court has ruled. Prisoner Klaus Harms, 33, had asked the Hamburg labour court to rule whether he could form a union to represent the inmates of a city jail in their dealings with its governor and staff. But the court ruled that the governor and staff could not be considered as "employers" and so a work council composed of employees and employers could not be set up. West German law provides for works councils in a wide number of concerns to represent employees.

Defector turns snake-catcher

MOSCOW (R) — U.S. army private Wade Roberts, who Moscow announced had defected to the Soviet Union, has settled in Ashkhabad, capital of Soviet Turkmenia, so that he can be a snake-catcher, the official news agency TASS said. It said Roberts, a 22-year-old Californian who had been posted in Giessen, West Germany, and his West German wife Petra Neumann, had chosen to live in Ashkhabad because it lay near a desert with a high snake population. Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennady Gerasimov said on April 2 that Roberts and Neumann had been granted political asylum in the Soviet Union. He said they had feared persecution for their political views.

Japan's Ainu appeals to U.N. over god-bird

UNITED NATIONS (R) — A delegation of Ainu, Japan's aboriginal people, has appealed to the United Nations to prevent the deforestation of their environment and the extinction of their god-bird, the striped fish owl. A petition handed to a senior official of the U.N. Environment Programme (UNEP) said the Japanese government was planning to cut down 10,000 trees in the Shiretoko National Park on the northernmost island of Hokkaido, where most of the 30,000 Ainu live. It said the forest was the last treasure house of wildlife in Japan and home to about 30 remaining striped fish owls, revered by the Ainu as "the gods that keep watch over the human community." Their petition said "this problem is no longer just domestic, it is international."

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHAHIN
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TAKE THE SURE-TRICK LINE

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ A K 4 3
♥ Q J 10 6
♦ Q J
♣ 6 5 2

WEST
♠ 8
♥ 8 7 5
♦ 10 9 7 6 5 2
♣ Q 10 8

EAST
♠ Q 10 7
♥ A J 3
♦ K 4 3
♣ 9 7 4 3

SOUTH
♠ J 9 6 5 2
♥ 9 4 2
♦ A 8
♣ A K J

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass
4 ♠ Pass Pass Pass
Opening lead: Ten of ♠

To succeed at bridge, you need to learn to plan the play of the hand in a logical manner. Put yourself in the South seat and see how you would tackle a four-spade contract after the lead of the ten of diamonds.

The bidding has been routine. North made a forcing raise of your one-spade opening and, with a dead minimum, you could do nothing other than raise to game.

The diamond opening lead has solved your problem in that suit.

Hand in 1250